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Bowling Green State University

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Tuesday

April 29, 2007
Volume 101, Issue 148
WWW.BGNEWS.COM

CAMPUS

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"BG and You" means opening your mind

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Do you think police should be allowed to use Tasers?



MARY RUCKER, Junior, HDFS

"It depends on the situation." | **Page 4**

WEATHER

TODAY

Partly Cloudy
High: 52, Low: 31

TOMORROW

Partly Cloudy
High: 58, Low: 45

Update: Rollover nears end, Teen Center recovering

By Ryan Sullivan
Reporter

Meal Plan Changes

When the debate over roll-over began, there was a large outcry from students about the loss of their rollover at the end of the next school year.

There are a lot of things students should know about the change-over starting next year, Director of Dining Services Gail Finan said.

The important thing for stu-

dents this year to remember is that this year's meal plan money will still be available next year, she said.

"May of 2009, write it in big bold letters," Finan said. This was her reaction because of the amount of student groups protesting the change.

She also said it is important to know what other schools are doing at the same time. Starting next year, the University of Akron will have two types of meal plan: one with a set number of meals and the other that is

a la carte like BGSU does. Their plan is going to cost \$1,850, but of that, students only get \$1400 because Akron is taking the rest as a fee.

There was never any talk of doing meal plan like Akron, Finan said.

"It is important to look at this [the elimination of roll-over] as a fee," Finan said. "It is the same type as you have for sports, whether you go or not. Just because you choose not to go, does that mean the football team shouldn't get their equip-

ment or uniforms?"

Though there are still students who complain about the change, there have been fewer protests recently.

"I just want to make sure people know there are other ways that the University could have handled it," Finan said. "This is what students said they wanted."

Burglary at the Teen Center

In November, Teen Center

officials were supposed to surprise the local teens with a new 40-inch HDTV. Instead, they walked in to find the Center had been robbed.

"The community was very generous in response [to the burglary]," Teen Center Director Niki Messmore said.

She said in response to the burglary, the community came forward and made donations that included new chairs for the

See **UPDATE** | Page 2



PAUL SAKUMA

Rebates start landing in bank accounts: How will America spend?

By Anne D'Innocenzio
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Tax rebates have begun dropping into bank accounts, but in this economy, gas and groceries may trump a high-end TV, a fancy dress or a new sofa — making the checks less of an economic jump-start than the government hoped for.

The first direct deposits from the Internal Revenue Service landed in bank accounts yesterday, shoppers were already using the cash to play catch-up on the basics, such as milk and other groceries.

Analysts say the rest will probably be used to pay down debt.

Alicia Flaxman, a stay-at-home mother from Seekonk, Mass., was shopping at a Target store yesterday and said she would use some of the rebate for food — cheaper items like potatoes, not more expensive

meat and fish.

"My bills are double," she said. "I go to the supermarket and I spend \$200. I used to spend \$120."

The rest of the money will probably go for summer clothes for her three children, she said.

The IRS aims to make 800,000 payments every day for the first three days of this week. No deposits will be made Thursday, and about 5 million on Friday.

How you receive the rebate depends on how you filed your taxes. Paper checks will go out beginning May 9. The exact timing for both direct deposit and paper checks depends on the last two digits of your Social Security number.

The rebates, which are expected to reach

See **REBATE** | Page 2

Police stun weapons can be lethal or helpful

By Ryan Sullivan
Reporter

Electroshock weapons, or Tasers, have been a valuable tool for law enforcement since being introduced in the mid-1990s — but not in Bowling Green.

Tasers send an electronic shock to the person and disables their motor functions.

While the University and Bowling Green Police Division don't use the stun guns, others, such as Miami University-Oxford and the University of Toledo, do.

But that doesn't mean Tasers aren't without controversy.

Last Thursday, Miami University graduate Kevin Piskura died after being Tasered by an Oxford police officer. According to police, Piskura was arguing with an officer when he was Tasered. He died five days later.

Oxford police declined comment on Piskura's death because the investigation is still ongoing.

But Piskura isn't the only one some believe may have died as a result of being Tasered.

According to the Amnesty International Web site, from 2001 to 2004, 70 people have died as a result of a Taser use. The group has also called for law enforcement agencies to stop the use of the electroshock weapons. If they are not willing to do that, the group asks for officers to limit their use of the weapon to times when they might otherwise use deadly force.

Both Bowling Green and BGSU police have looked into getting Tasers but have decided against them.

One of the benefits of Tasers the police seem to like is that the

"There is no question they are a valuable tool ... It is just not a tool that we use right now."

Jim Wiegand | Director of Public Safety

officer doesn't have to come into physical contact with the suspect, Director of Public Safety Jim Wiegand said. The weapon can be used from 15 to 20 feet away and this helps provide safety to the arresting officer.

"There is no question they are a valuable tool in law enforcement, there is no question they have saved the lives of police and suspects," Wiegand said. "It is just not a tool that we use right now."

According to Taser International's Web site, of the 18,000 law enforcement agencies in the country, more than 11,000 issue Tasers and 3,500 of those arm all officers with the weapon. They also show a drastic decrease in injuries in police forces that arm their officers with Tasers.

Because of the deaths associated with Tasers, the University has shown a hesitation toward using them, Wiegand said.

"One of the things I am always thinking about in regards to Tasers is that there seems to be a high number of unexplained deaths," he said.

He said he is currently not aware of anybody on campus who carries some sort of stun

See **TASER** | Page 2

Credit crunch hits states' college loan programs

By Pauline Vu
MCT

WASHINGTON — With federal and state college loan programs reeling from the credit crunch caused by the subprime mortgage crisis, state officials are worried about what will happen this summer when a surge of students begins applying for fall semester money.

An increasing number of banks, private lenders and state agencies are dropping their student loan programs, forcing students to scramble for new sources of money. While some experts say students should be able to easily find new lenders, students who switch could end up with higher interest rates and fewer benefits, such as paid upfront loan fees, as the financial market tightens.

And some experts worry that escalating loan costs could discourage some students from applying at all.

In a time of what loan officials say is unprecedented uncertainty, students asking about whether certain loans are available are getting answers like, "As of today, yes."

Among the skittish lenders are state loan programs run by state agencies or nonprofit lend-

ing groups. These agencies have traditionally offered loans with better benefits than their for-profit counterparts, but some have stopped offering federal loans, cutting off a main source of tuition money to hundreds of thousands of students. This year, for example, about 14,700 students in Massachusetts and 500,000 in Pennsylvania received these loans, but both states have suspended their programs.

This month, Kentucky announced that unless more money becomes available, it will not accept loan applications from new students after May 1, closing the door on 27,500 potential borrowers.

Other states have suspended their private loans, which will leave 20,000 students in Iowa, for example, looking elsewhere for money.

There are two types of student loans: federal loans, which are funded by lenders but guaranteed by the federal government, and private loans. To raise money for both types of loans, lenders, including state agencies, float bonds, but wary investors are staying away from all markets, including those for traditionally safe student loans.

There has not been one successful bond auction for new

student loans since last year. As a result, eight states have either suspended their private loan programs or pulled out of the federal loan program — three of them just last week.

Since mid-February, agencies in Massachusetts, Minnesota, Pennsylvania and Texas have announced they will stop offering federal loans. In addition to Iowa, lending groups for Missouri and New Hampshire have suspended their private loan programs. Michigan has dropped both types of loans.

Private loans offered by some states help students cover what the capped federal loans don't, and they offer better benefits for less costly fees. The suspensions of some state private loans mean that the 8,500 Michigan students who this year received the MI-LOAN and the 6,160 students in New Hampshire who borrowed almost \$8,000 each from the state's loan program will be out of luck if they re-apply.

More students depend on the state agencies to give them federal loans. Nationwide, 11.3 percent of students receive federal loans through state agencies; the rest of the loan money is largely

See **CREDIT** | Page 2



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BLOTTER

FRIDAY

12:08 A.M.

Officers were called to the third floor of Kreischer-Ashley for a large group of football players who would not listen to hall staff. The officers were told there was a fight between the players. Hall staff is handling referrals.

2:18 A.M.

William Callier Jr., of Eastpoint, Ga., was cited for obstructing official business and disorderly conduct. He was charged after he started running from an officer who was stopping to check on his welfare.

3:35 A.M.

Christopher Warner of Highland Heights, Ohio, was arrested for disorderly conduct and housed at the Wood County Justice Center after it was determined he was too intoxicated to care for himself.

11:11 A.M.

A police report was filed after a student's e-mail account was used to send offensive e-mails to some of her professors.

11:25 A.M.

A student reported his backpack was stolen from the Bromfield computer lab.

1:27 P.M.

A student reported her bike stolen from the bike rack by University Hall.

4:01 P.M.

A student had his zip drive stolen from a computer lab. Along with his zip drive, his keys, PED and BG1 card were also taken.

SATURDAY

12:46 A.M.

Nicholas Tippery of Oregon, Ohio, was cited for underage under the influence. Police found him passed out, face down and unresponsive with his feet in the hallway and his body was propping open the door of his room.

6:43 A.M.

Sean Gardner of Perrysburg was arrested for disorderly conduct with persistence after arguing with an officer over his right to be in a public space. The officer advised that he would be placed under arrest and after his friends tried to drag him away, he walked back to the same spot, continued to argue and was placed under arrest.

3:43 A.M.

Andrew Krellove of Ottawa, Calif., was cited for disorderly conduct while voluntarily intoxicated after defecating in the Kreischer-Darrow lobby stairwell.

4:38 P.M.

A student was referred to student discipline after he admitted to smoking marijuana in his room after an officer searched his room due to the smell of burnt marijuana.

SUNDAY

2:21 A.M.

Nick Torressa of Schaumburg, Ill., was cited for disorderly conduct after shattering one of the glass doors.

2:40 A.M.

A student in Kreischer-Batchelder called police after she found a bag of human feces on her door handle.

ONLINE: Go to bgnews.com for the complete blotter list.

CORRECTION POLICY

We want to correct all factual errors. If you think an error has been made, call The BG News at 419-372-6966.

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com

CHECK IT OUT

UPDATE

From Page 1

center, a Nintendo Game Cube and 40 games for the system.

The Teen Center also took in almost \$2,000 in donations since the incident, Messmore said.

"[Since the burglary] we have been extremely careful with how things are locked up," Messmore said. "We also talked to police about doing a patrol by the center."

The Center still functioned after the burglary, but it took until about January for the them to be running completely normal again, she said.



TREVOR LEE | THE BG NEWS

DONATIONS: After a Teen Center break-in in November, the Bowling Green community donated chairs, video games and almost \$2000.

REBATE

From Page 1

130 million households, range up to \$600 for individuals and \$1,200 for married couples, plus \$300 per child for eligible parents.

Eric Mossack of Spring Hill, Tenn., had his \$1,200 rebate in his checking account yesterday and spent some of it on clothing from Gap, Kohl's and other stores — his first shopping spree in a few months, he said. The rest will go to car payments.

"We paid off something we owed, and had a little extra to spend," Mossack said.

But Bethany Blankley of Manhattan, who works in public relations, said she would immediately put the \$600 she received toward paying off credit cards. "The interest rates are high," she said.

That kind of frugality doesn't surprise analysts, who say shoppers are earmarking more of their money for groceries, the utility bill or credit card payments. Besides grocery chains, they expect discount retailers like Wal-Mart Stores Inc. and off-price clothing outlets like T.J. Maxx to benefit from the stimulus checks.

"Consumers are so feeling the pinch that ... they are really being forced to step away from luxury or discretionary purchases," said Janet Hoffman, managing partner

of the North American retail division of Accenture.

But department stores and consumer electronics stores are unlikely to see a "measurable lift," Hoffman added. "The amounts are not that significant."

By comparison, previous government stimulus plans led to a lift across the entire retail industry, said Stacy Janiak, vice chairman and U.S. retail leader at Deloitte Research.

The rebates go out as the IRS finishes sending out its regular annual tax refund checks.

In an Associated Press-AOL Money & Finance poll earlier this month, 35 percent said they would use their regular tax refunds for bills and credit card payments. That was up from 27 percent who said that a year ago.

With consumer spending screeching to a halt in recent months, the retail industry needs shoppers to splurge.

That's a big challenge. Gas could reach \$4 a gallon this summer, and a gallon of milk is now about \$4 on average as well.

"People who were eating steaks last year are now eating hamburger meat and pasta this year," said Burt P. Flickinger III, managing director of the consumer industry consulting firm Strategic Resource Group. "People are going to be able to

"People ... are now eating hamburger meat and pasta this year. People are going to be able to put good food on the table, but ... will go back to hamburger meat and macaroni."

Burt P. Flickinger III | Managing director at Strategic Resource Group

put good food on the table, but in a few weeks they will go back to hamburger meat and macaroni."

Retailers have already tried to grab a share of the billions of dollars flowing to households. Sears Holdings Corp. is offering discounts and freebies to shoppers who convert rebate checks into gift cards. Home Depot Inc. launched a campaign urging people to spend on eco-friendly products like energy-saving light bulbs.

Kroger Co. has already announced that shoppers can convert \$300 rebate checks into a \$330 Kroger gift card.

"I'd estimate that we had about 100 people indicate they were ready to get the cards as soon as they could," Brad Casebolt, the manager of a Kroger said in Sharonville, Ohio, said yesterday. "The interest in it really has been overwhelming."

Joyce Gundling, who was loading groceries at another suburban Cincinnati grocery, said she would take advantage.

"The way groceries are skyrocketing, I'll probably end up spending here anyway," she said. "This way, I get more for my money."

Associated Press Writers Martin Crutsinger in Washington, Lisa Cornwell in Cincinnati and Michelle Smith in Seekonk, Mass. contributed to this report.

CREDIT

From Page 1

dispersed by banks, directly by the federal government and by other private lenders.

The federally guaranteed loans come through the Federal Family Education Loan Program. But since the fall, more than 50 lenders — both for-profit lenders such as banks and nonprofit lenders like state agencies — have dropped out of FFELP or scaled back participation. The departing lenders represent 13.6 percent of the current loan pool.

The U.S. House this month overwhelmingly passed a bill clarifying that the U.S. education secretary has the authority to advance money to lenders of last resort in the event every lender drops out of the federal program, and buy up loans that lenders have been unable to sell to investors to give them money to make new loans. The Bush administration sent a letter to key congressional members on April 23 supporting the provisions and encouraging the Senate to expedite approval of its own bill.

But critics say the federal

"If we had been doing business with them, recommending them, we would have to go and undo everything we had done and help students and parents start all over again."

Rick Shipman | Michigan State University financial aid director

government needs to pump even more money into the system. If not, "I would expect to see many more lenders leaving the student loan program by the end of the 2008-09 year," said Mark Kantrowitz, the founder of FinAid.org, a financial-aid Web site.

Adding to the uncertainty, colleges — and students — can be caught off guard by these sometimes sudden departures. Just two weeks before TCF Bank, one of the 50 largest student loan providers, announced March 20 that it was dropping out of FFELP, the bank sent a letter touting its student loan benefits to Michigan State University's financial aid office.

"If we had been doing business with them, recommending them, we would have to go and undo everything we had done and help students and parents start all over again," said Rick

TASER

From Page 1

gun but he does believe there are people on campus who do.

Captain John Betori of the University of Toledo police said there are one of many departments across the country that currently uses Tasers as an option to subdue people who are resisting officers.

"We have not had any problems," Betori said. "[Tasers] really limits injuries to officers."

UT started issuing Tasers to officers a few years ago and students on their campus have never really had a problem with them, Betori said.

He said when Tasers were added there was never really a transition because they are just another tool at the officers disposal and gives them an option to use something other than deadly force.

The Tasers have been used before, Betori said, but no one has ever experienced any long lasting effects from the shock.

Lt. Ben Spilman of the Miami University police department said his department was aware of deaths associated with Tasers when they armed officers with them in 2004.

He said yesterday he was unaware if Miami would stop using Tasers as a result.

Students on campus seem to fall on both sides of the Taser discussion.

Junior Alexandra McCarroll said she likes the idea of University officers using Tasers because they offer a better alternative than lethal force.

"They are here to protect and serve and should use whatever helps them," McCarroll said. "They should be used in extreme conditions besides shooting someone."

Graduate student Rose De Hoyos-Gonzalez disagrees.

"I think they are a bad idea," De Hoyos-Gonzalez said. "[Officers] don't know if [the people being Tasered] are sick or have health problems."

She said she thinks the use of physical force, including handcuffing their legs or other some other means of restraint, are a better and safer alternative for the person who is resisting.

"There is no question law enforcement agencies are using them in the continuum," Chief Wiegand said. "There are some chiefs who will sing the praises of Tasers because they save the health of their officers."

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LIFECASTER: Justin.tv began as the crazy brainchild of its founder, Justin Kan, who decided it would be really cool if he could broadcast his entire life, 24/7, to the Internet.

'Lifecasting' can make anyone a reality star

By Etan Horowitz
MCT

In December, Dana Neil Oaklund of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., began streaming live video on the Internet from a laptop in his SUV to assure his customers that their cargo was safe. What he didn't expect was that dozens of people would get a kick out of seeing him stuck in traffic in California or cruising between snow-covered mountains in Colorado.

"It just blows my mind," said Oaklund, who escorts oversize loads, while parked in San Diego. "Right now there are 33 people who think this is interesting enough to watch. A lot of people tell me, 'Oh, wow, this is cool because I am getting to see the country without leaving my desk.'"

Oaklund is a "lifecaster," one of a growing number of people creating their own reality shows by broadcasting live for a few minutes or hours at a time from their computers or cell phones. Unlike videos uploaded to YouTube, lifecasters are inviting viewers into their world to see what they see, comment on it and ask questions, all in real time.

Broadcasting live from a webcam is nothing new, but what makes services such as Justin.tv, Ustream.tv and Yahoo Live (live.yahoo.com) different is that technology has evolved to the point where practically anyone can stream live from almost anywhere and interact with people who are watching.

You don't need to be a technical genius or even have your own Web page. And with the spread of wireless Internet and the fact that webcams have become a standard feature on many new computers, you might not even have to buy anything.

Oaklund, 40, uses a mobile broadband connection to broadcast as the "Master Roadcaster" on Justin.tv. People tune in from all over the world to laugh at his jokes, make comments about other drivers, tell him to slow down or suggest hotels for him. While driving, he glances at the computer screen when it's safe and speaks into a headset to respond to questions and com-

WHAT IS LIFECASTING?

POINT: It's a live, ongoing video broadcast of someone's life streamed live on the Internet. Some people associate lifecasting with streaming 24/7 from a wearable camera, but the term also includes people who broadcast live less frequently. Viewers can interact with the broadcaster through a chat window. Although most lifecasting is done from a computer, people are starting to use cell phones.

ments. He usually has 15 to 100 people watching.

"People are already looking at video online, so wouldn't it be funny if you could watch a funny video clip and you could tell the person doing it, 'Hey, do that again?'" said Michael Seibel, CEO of Justin.tv.

Seibel started Justin.tv in 2006 with three friends to live broadcast co-founder Justin Kan 24/7 as he walked around San Francisco with a camera attached to his hat. In October, the site opened to everyone, and it now has more than 430,000 registered users, about 34,000 of whom are broadcasters.

Britta Seisums, 18, typically streams live from her red-polka-dot-covered bedroom for about four hours after school each weekday. She plays games with viewers, dances to pop songs, hangs out with her friends, talks about school and curses out people who come into the chat room and are rude.

Seisums has been creating her own Web sites since she was about 10 and wants to work in Web development. "I keep the camera on as much as possible, but I like to have privacy. If I don't want to be on camera, then I put the camera on my animals."

In recent episodes, she has bathed her guinea pigs, painted a video-game console and accidentally spilled soda on her laptop.

Seisums is careful not to reveal too many details about herself or where she lives and has moderators who ban people who are vulgar. Her typical audience is about the same size as Oaklund's.

Jerry Springer delivers speech to graduates

By Megan Twohey
MCT

CHICAGO—When Alex Aixala looked ahead to his graduation from Northwestern Law School in May, he envisioned a commencement speaker who would shower the crowd with uplifting words of wisdom.

"I honestly feel like the purpose of a graduation speaker is to inspire you to make the world a better place," said Aixala, whose favorite part of law school was working with its free legal clinic for the poor.

A trash-television legend whose talk show rewards guests who flash their breasts was not exactly what he had in mind. So when word spread that Jerry Springer was to give the address, Aixala joined many of his classmates in signing petitions against the choice.

Their objection, however, was overruled.

Last week, the students who selected Springer announced in an e-mail to classmates that their decision had faculty approval and was final, emphasizing that he was also an Emmy-winning news anchor and political commentator who had drawn large crowds at previous speaking engagements.



Jerry Springer
Former "Governor of Cincinnati" and television show host

Social networking applications can pose security hazards

By Martha Irvine
The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Sarah Brown is unusually cautious when it comes to social networking.

The college sophomore doesn't have a MySpace page and, while she's on Facebook, she does everything she can to keep her page as private as she can.

"I don't want to have to worry about all the different online scandals and problems," says Brown, an education major at St. Joseph College in Connecticut. She'd like to control her personal information and keep it out of the hands of identity thieves or snooping future employers. "It's just common sense."

It sounds like her info is locked down and airtight. But is it?

Turns out, even the privacy-conscious Sarah Browns of the world freely hand over personal information to perfect strangers. They do so every time they download and install what's known as an "application," one of thousands of mini-programs on a growing number of social networking sites that are designed by third-party developers for anything from games and sports teams to trivia quizzes and virtual gifts.

Brown, for instance, has installed applications on her Facebook page for Boston Bruins fans and another that allows her to post "bumper stickers" on her own page and those of her friends. It's a core way to communicate on social networking sites, which allow friends to create pages about themselves and post photos and details about their lives



ANDREW SHURTLEFF | THE BG NEWS

INTERNET: University of Virginia computer science student Adrienne Felt has researched the issue of online privacy.

and interests.

People often think Facebook profiles and sometimes MySpace pages, if they're set as private, are only available to friends or specific groups, such as a university, workplace, or even a city.

But that's not true if they use applications. On Facebook, for instance, applications can only be downloaded if a user

checks a box allowing its developers to "know who I am and access my information," which means everything on a profile, except contact info. Given little thought, agreeing to the terms has become a matter of routine for the nearly 70 million Facebook users worldwide who use applications to spruce up their pages and to flirt, play and bond with friends online.

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In Loving Memory of:

Kristi Lynn Hill

March 6, 1985 – May 2, 2007

Late in April of 2007, Kristi was affected by an episode with her heart that went undetected by the doctor and hospital. While all other students were in their finals, Kristi was fighting for her life. Unfortunately, Kristi was not able to pull through

and lost her fight. She was a hero to all of us until the end; donating her organs so that other people might live better, more full lives. There are 4 people in the Toledo and Cleveland area whose lives have been renewed because of Kristi's gift.

Kristi was truly a Remarkable Daughter, Sister, Aunt, Granddaughter, Niece, and Cousin. But what Kristi is probably best known for by all of us and probably all of you that knew and remember her is that Kristi was an Incredible Friend.

Kristi had a Contagious Laugh, Wonderful Sense of Humor, and a Beautiful Smile. She was a Free Spirit Who Enjoyed, and Lived Life to the Fullest. Kristi cared for and loved people. She never met anyone that she wouldn't talk with. Kristi was Loving and Kind, but you always knew where she stood.

Kristi will be forever missed, but someday we will be with her again in Heaven. Her belief in Jesus Christ was deep and we know today that Kristi is watching over all of us as our Guardian Angel.

If you knew Kristi, we would ask that you share your stories of Kristi with us. Tell us how you met Kristi and Your Favorite Times and Memories with Kristi. Mail or e-mail these to Terry and Julie Hill at 2228 Powell Rd. Powell, OH 43065 or thill306@sbcglobal.net.

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PEOPLE ON THE STREET

Do you think police should be allowed to use Tasers?



"Yes, because it's a protection for them, in case someone gets out of hand."

RACHEL BURRIS,
Freshman, Marketing



"Yes, when the situation calls for it, but it depends."

LARRY MARSHALL,
Junior,
Telecommunications



"Yes."

STEPHANIE ZELLER,
Freshman, APMD



"I'd rather have a Taser than pepper spray."

WILLIE GETER,
Freshman, Undecided

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How to cope with the world hunger crisis



**MWENDA
M'MAILUTHA**
COLUMNIST

It's no longer a remote or academic issue; the world — developed, transition or developing — is facing a food crisis. Over the last two months, the world has witnessed food riots in more than a dozen countries.

In Haiti, food riots went on for a week and culminated in the death of a soldier and the ouster of a government. In Egypt, the government had to enlist the army to bake bread to stave off hunger riots.

Similar situations exist in Bangladesh, the Philippines and North Korea. In fact, The Economist reports that North Korea could be on the brink of the worst food crisis since the 1990s.

Meanwhile, politicians in Southeast Asia are set to pass laws to further regulate trade in rice — the region's staple crop — in order to enhance food security. Fear of rice shortages and the flak this would occasion is the motivation.

It's the same story all over the world; the United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organization reports that about 37 countries could be facing serious food shortages this year.

The World Food Program, another U.N. agency, has sent out distress calls from across the world. According to Executive Director of WFP Josette Sheeran, many countries are approaching or already past the red flag.

It's a veritable "silent tsunami."

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"In a sense, the food crisis tearing across the world is not conventional; foodprice inflation is the new norm."

Sheeran explained. We know that tsunamis reach far and wide, and are never superficial.

In a sense, the food crisis tearing across the world is not conventional; food-price inflation is the new norm. Exacerbated by a buffet of inherent and extraneous factors, it threatens to shake governments and stoke civil unrest.

A rise in food prices, unfortunately and most perversely, hits the poor hardest. Even those traditionally unaffected by food shortages have to make do with hard opportunity costs in order to buy food.

Those who subsist on less than \$1 a day — the U.N.'s definition of absolute poverty — are merely surviving, looking at death by starvation.

The world did not just wake up into the problem; we have been walking towards it.

As with climate change or the credit crunch, policymakers slept on the job, shirked responsibility and let the situation snowball into a conflagration.

Several elephants are in the room.

Farmers in North America, Western Europe and Japan are the world's most pampered; so coddled they could be overgrown brats.

The European Union spends approximately 44 percent of its budget in a labyrinthine of pay-offs to spoil farmers in some framework called common agricultural policy.

In the U.S., the government

See **MWENDA** | Page 5

Getting in touch with the soul of our country



**ZACH
FRANKS**
COLUMNIST

Here in the state of Ohio, students must pass an onslaught of standardized exams throughout their academic career to move on to the next level, graduate high school, be accepted into college and so on. In every one of these standardized exams is a section pertaining to government or at least social studies.

The history of our country has been taught to us since we entered into the school system. It has been taught again and again, and we have been tested on it again and again.

Still, it seems that somewhere along the way enough was not done to stress the main ideas that this country was founded on, or at least make them stick.

I say this because when I look at our leadership in this country — present, recent past and the foreseeable future — I see a group of people that has forgotten the simple ideas that our nation was founded on: liberty and freedom.

You would think that these leaders would have a very educated background in this government that they are running. Some of them went to very private institutions since elementary school, all of them graduated college and most of them graduated law school. But it seems that sadly they do not.

I have a couple of young cousins that seem to have more of a grasp on the founding principles of this country than most of our elected and appointed officials. That is just how simple these ideas were, and are.

But now they have been so distorted and refined for the benefit of the chosen few that

"I have a couple of young cousins that seem to have more of a grasp on the founding principles of this country than most of our elected and appointed officials."

it is bleeding the common person dry and most of us are so disconnected that we don't realize it.

I am not going to blame this on our current administration, or even give it up as a sign of the times. It has been a problem for quite some time before most of us were even born.

This is the problem of we, the people.

With it being our problem, it is one that we must fix ourselves, because why would those who benefit want to change what is going on.

Our Declaration of Independence identified what a good and just government would look like. That is, it would guarantee our unalienable rights, and that the power of the government would be derived from the people who could determine at any point to change.

The Constitution was meant to protect the rights of individuals by limiting the power of the government, and provided principles that the government should be held to.

The Bill of Rights furthered the protection of our individual rights by further constraining the role of the government and its power.

That's it. This is where the basic ideas are found, and all of them lead to a government controlled by the people and with little control over the people.

These are the ideas and principles that have been raped by power-thirsty politicians.

It is not a Democratic or Republican problem. It is both parties. Our country has been sold out and we have allowed it.

All of us have stood back and watched it all go down and most likely said "I wish there was something I could do."

We have all forgotten that we

See **FRANKS** | Page 5

An open mind is essential to education



BRIAN KUTZLEY
COLUMNIST

"Instead, what I advocate is that, prior to debating others, debate yourself."

"BG and You," our newest ad campaign. While I tend to think it's a modest improvement over "Dream BG" I also suspect that most students find it corny at best. But I'm going to pretend that it speaks to a powerful truth: personal choice in education.

As I have tended to point out, this University hosts some groundbreaking progressive material.

In previous columns, I have been less than charitable in discussing these programs, and while I have no intention of disavowing any prior columns, I would like to offer a new perspective on the potential of controversial programs.

A while back I wrote a column challenging the intentions of "Take Back the Night." One result of this column was an invitation, extended by Kristy Ganoe, to speak to a women's studies introductory course.

I was somewhat suspicious, and requested copies of the class's reading materials. The readings I was provided were, in many ways, the embodiment of my fears. They were appeals to emotions, fear and empowerment.

They were controversial at best, and I found sections singularly vulgar and accusatory, and nearly backed out at the eleventh hour. In hindsight, I'm glad I did not.

I spent about an hour in the classroom, first presenting my own understanding of women's advocacy, then fielding questions on the issue, and we continued talking after the class period had technically ended.

Civility and debate, therefore, are not mutually exclusive. Many of the participants in that discussion are probably still disgusted by my beliefs, but I would like to think they respect my conviction.

However, our obligation does not stop with mere civility. If listening is respectful to another, consideration is respectful to yourself.

While the individuals in that class were obviously willing to hear me out, it was also apparent that, for the most part, they had been unable or unwilling to independently challenge the material placed in front of them.

I am not advocating general cynicism. Instead, what I advocate is that, prior to debating others, debate yourself.

The University offers courses

that, regardless of one's own beliefs, are incredibly controversial. I encourage students to take courses they might find abhorrent and treat them not as testaments to truth, but as information to be processed, judged and adopted or discarded according to its validity.

But therein lies the irony of choice. A terribly overused cliché dictates that "the mind is like an umbrella — it functions best when open."

That openness, however, must be a two-way process; otherwise it is an intellectual fraud.

Consider the recently concluded case of Carlos Adams.

We were told that Instructor Adams was of irreplaceable value to the University because of his personal experiences and ability to inspire minority students.

However, one of the earliest points of controversy surrounding the Justice for Carlos Adams movement was the premise that Adams had been unfairly denied tenure because he had been a vocal opponent of the instatement of Timothy Messer-Kruse as chair of the Ethnic Studies department.

His opposition was on the grounds that — a white male — lacked the necessary perspective to lead such a program.

What does it say about an advocate of diversity when he challenges another professional on the basis of skin color or origin?

This is the ultimate test of our open-mindedness — are we willing to challenge the "open minded?" Can an ethnic studies department be effectively led by a white male? Recent experience would seem to dictate "yes."

I opened with the concept of "BG and You" because, in its painfully childish way, it makes an invaluable point.

The University can only do half the work. If you mindlessly adopt — or reject — the material placed before you, your time at this establishment is completely wasted. You sacrifice your values, your beliefs, your very self — and pretend it's growth.

But if you challenge your professors to offer better explanations, more evidence and alternative perspectives, you can actually grow.

If you challenge your own beliefs, and the evidence you fixate on to validate those beliefs, then you accomplish much more than simple indoctrination.

It is no secret that I vehemently oppose many of the messages endorsed in progressive classrooms across campus.

However, whether those messages inspire indoctrination or growth is entirely up to you.

— Respond to Brian at thenews@bgnews.com.



MCT

THE BG NEWS

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR are generally to be fewer than 300 words. These are usually in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area.

GUEST COLUMNS are generally longer pieces between 400 and 700 words. These are usually also in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area. Two submissions per month maximum.

POLICIES: Letters to the Editor and Guest Columns are printed as space on the Opinion Page permits. Additional Letters to the Editor or Guest Columns may be published online. Name, year and phone number should be included for verification purposes. Personal attacks, unverified information or anonymous submissions will not be printed.

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Opinion columns do not necessarily reflect the view of **The BG News**.

FRANKS

From Page 4

are the element of change, and the politicians and corporations couldn't be happier.

What good is our freedom of speech if we're not going to use it to speak up about what we feel is wrong?

Tired of watching politicians appoint their buddies to positions and contracting government jobs to their friends companies? I know most of us are, but why aren't more people speaking up and asking questions? People are getting rich at the expense of the citizens and our blindness to a government with virtually unlimited power.

All these checks and balances have failed horribly. It seems that our Supreme Court could care less about limiting the power of the executive branch and Congressional acts. Our legislative branch should be our last line of defense and it has failed us as well.

This trinity of power has gotten so uneven that we are constantly getting walked on, and there is no one left to protect us.

No one that is, except for us. We need to start standing up and speaking out or else our voices will be lost.

It may even take creating a new party where our only platform is reforming the power of the government.

This is what our forefathers were afraid of. They declared independence to escape an unlimited government; they gave us the founding principles and tools to prevent it from happening again, and we dropped the ball.

Sure, the idea of a third party whose emphasis is to reform power is outlandish and probably impossible, but the same was said about independence from England, and look what the common man accomplished.

— Respond to Zach at
theneus@bgnews.com.

MWENDAH

From Page 4

spends millions of dollars to get farmers off the land — fallow land is good for soil conservation — and to help them artificially game the cobweb model of agricultural markets — the cyclic conjunctures between supply and demand in price discovery.

It's a subtle but shameful program that not only stands the market on its head, but also rewards sloth and inefficiency while crowding out developing country farmers from the world commodities market.

Mollycoddling U.S. farmers is an old political instrument that Congress is beholden to. Nonetheless, the program profoundly distorts the market, and creates disincentives for poor farmers to engage in meaningful agricultural enterprises.

Since most developing countries are producer economies, this distortion deprives governments of revenue and

pushes their farmers — whose premier comparative advantage is in farming — into subsistence farming.

This locks them into a vicious cycle of squalor, doomed to farm uneconomical farm enterprises. Food-price inflation hits such farmers the most.

What's even worse is that developed economies have deemed it fit to pile on with another distortion — subsidies to biofuels. This has pushed corn prices to high heaven.

What's more, rich governments, mostly the U.S., have imposed export quotas, further throwing the market into a spin, and prices into an overshoot. In the age of biofuels, people are competing for grain with automobiles, a fancy experiment that might become a sham in short order.

The U.S. could import ethanol from Brazil, which makes the stuff from sugarcane.

Not so, however, because farmers in the corn-belt might throw a tantrum. As a result, the government has places inordi-

nately high import tariffs to discourage any ethanol imports.

These factors, and many more like high costs of production (inputs, transport); increased demand for meat in emerging markets (the beef industry consumes a lot of grain in animal feeds); as well as effects of climate change, continue to make the world food situation a very dicey affair.

The United Nations and the World Bank are proposing a "New Deal" on food to stave off massive hunger and civil strife across the world. This is a step in the right direction.

However, much more is needed to confront the worrying trend: Scrapping of trade distorting farm subsidies is urgent, intensive agricultural research, embracing of science (genetically modified food is food) and investing in agricultural development in Africa, Latin America and Asia.

— Respond to Mwendah at
theneus@bgnews.com.

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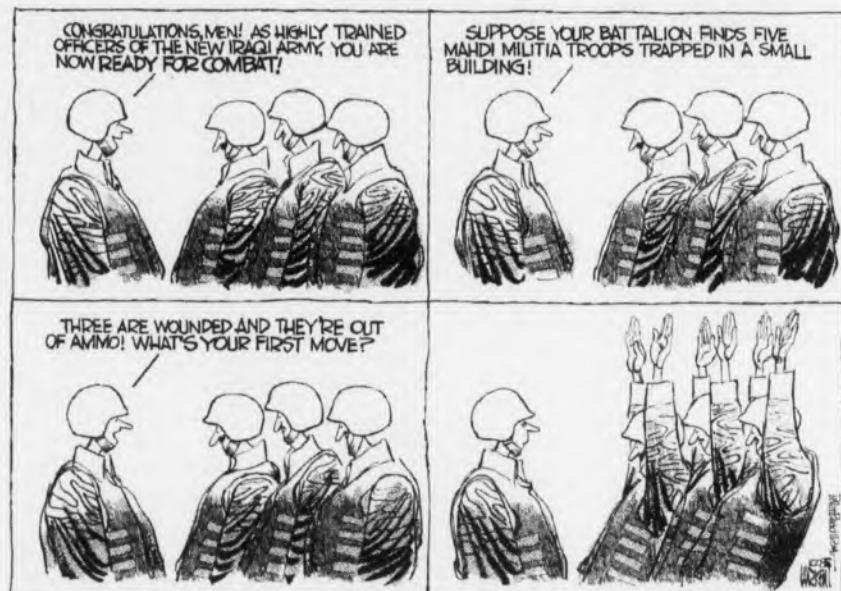
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JUSTICE: Ohio Attorney General Marc Dann answers questions during an interview in Columbus.

JAY LAPRETE | AP PHOTO

Ohio's attorney general only one with Washington lobbyist

CLEVELAND (AP) — Ohio has the only attorney general with a full-time lobbyist in Washington to help the state get more federal money, a newspaper investigation found.

Attorney General Marc Dann pays \$98,000 to Craig Mehall — who had no Washington experience — to help get more grants from the Department of Justice and lobby members of Congress on consumer issues, The (Cleveland) Plain Dealer reported yesterday.

Dann and Mehall defended the lobbyist's job as vital in the competition to win federal money for the state.

"I believe that in the end, my being here is justified," said Mehall, who worked briefly as Dann's deputy chief of policy in Columbus after meeting him during the 2006 campaign.

The Justice Department awarded Cleveland and other northern Ohio communities a \$5.8 million competitive grant in October to fight violent

"I believe that in the end, my being here is justified."

Craig Mehall | Chief of Police

crime. The attorney general's office's share was \$2.9 million.

Dann said it was the largest grant of its kind in the country, which Mehall attributed to his work making calls and setting up meetings so that Ohio's request would be well-tailored to the grant.

Competitive grants can be awarded to multiple police departments, making a simple comparison to the grants awarded during the terms of Dann's predecessors difficult. But records show an increase in federal money for the attorney general's office under Dann, the newspaper found.

"Marc is trying to do something that no one else is doing,

to try to knock on doors and open things up," said Robert Cornwall, executive director of the Buckeye State Sheriffs Association, which represents Ohio's 88 sheriffs.

Last June, an impending deadline for a federal grant application sent Mehall scrambling to get original signatures as required. He alerted the attorney general's office that someone would have to fly to Washington to sign the papers. He later found out electronic signatures were permissible.

Dann's grants manager, Ruth Wilkes, couldn't get a last-minute commercial flight. So her fiancé, a Dann campaign contributor, flew her to Washington on his private plane at his own expense.

State ethics rules require top state employees, including Wilkes, to file annual reports disclosing gifts, including free trips. However, Wilkes did not include the plan ride on her report, the newspaper reported.

Cincinnati teens get text messages reminding them to take medication

CINCINNATI (AP) — Calling all forgetful teenagers. More specifically, texting forgetful teens.

A Cincinnati hospital is trying out a program of sending cell phone text message reminders to teens with asthma to remind them to take medications on time.

"They just text me and tell me, 'Hi. Don't forget to take your asthma meds,'" said Tylor Thomas, 16, one of a handful of teens in a Children's Hospital Medical Center pilot project to determine how well text-message reminders work to help teens manage their asthma.

He gets a reminder every day around 9 a.m.

If text messages are an effective solution for asthma management, there's no reason they won't work for patients with diabetes or other chronic illnesses, said Maria Britto, an adolescent medicine specialist who coordinates the project.

It isn't just teenagers with chronic diseases who aren't good about sticking to their treatment regimen. About half of all patients take their medicine when they're supposed to,

the way they're supposed to, Britto said.

"The longer you have to take the medicine, the lower your adherence rate is," Britto said. "If you have strep throat, the doctor gives you an antibiotic and tells you to take it for 10 days, and it's not a big deal."

"But if it's a medication you have to take every day for a long time and it has side effects you don't like, you're not going to take it every day."

Among teens, sometimes not taking medicine is an attempt at independence. More often, they just forget.

"One of the barriers to adherence is the fact that many asthma medications really work over the long term, in that they prevent symptoms from happening," said Dennis Drotar, a psychologist at Children's Hospital. "But teenagers live in the short-term, so today and tomorrow are more important than not having an asthma attack six months from now."

Tylor was diagnosed with asthma when he was about 3. His symptoms are pretty well controlled, but he uses an inhaler once a day to prevent



WWW.SXCHU

asthma attacks.

Teens in the program can choose how often they want messages and what they want them to say. The mother of one of the teens does the texting, but the hospital plans to set up an automated system to send the messages.

For now, most texts are medication reminders. But as the system develops, it could include appointment reminders and test results.

Fishing has been a recently declining sport

SANDUSKY, Ohio (AP) — Concerned about the declining number of people fishing, Ohio's wildlife leaders are handing out free fishing poles to kids and teaching them how to snag a walleye.

Those are just a couple of the programs designed to build a new generation of anglers.

The number of fishing licenses sold has dropped dramatically over the past two decades.

During the 1980s, about a million Ohio residents held fishing licenses each year. Two years ago the number was down 662,867.

"It just seems like a heck of a large segment of young folks are out of touch with the natural world," Ray Petering, the Ohio Division of Wildlife's executive administrator of fish management, said. "They're content to play video games and stay inside all day."

It's not just Ohio that is seeing a drop in fishing.

Wildlife officials say the declining number of fishing and hunting licenses nationwide is the hottest topic among natural resources agencies across the country.

Ohio's natural resources department has increased its outdoor education programs, including hunting and fishing education courses.

"We're trying desperately to maintain that connection to the outdoors," Petering said. "The decision to hunt and fish is an individual decision. We just want to make sure that these young folks at least have some exposure to these outdoor activities."

Some activities, such as camping, hiking and bird watching, are growing in popularity, he said.

The number of fishing licenses sold did go up two years ago following a good hatching year for fish in Lake Erie in 2003.



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Ohio is not as fast as other states in its scheduling executions

By Stephen Majors
The Associated Press

COLUMBUS — Ohio officials have been less swift and less aggressive than leaders from some other states at moving to restart executions after a U.S. Supreme Court decision ended a seven-month national pause to killing inmates.

Ohio, which not long ago had one of the nation's busiest death chambers, is led by a governor who has said he is not comfortable with the death penalty and top law enforcement officer who has said he thinks "we can do better" in applying it.

Gov. Ted Strickland has the power to cancel or delay death sentences, and Attorney General Marc Dann's office fights against death row inmates' appeals.

Since the U.S. Supreme Court decided April 16 to allow Kentucky's lethal injection process that is similar to the one used in Ohio, Texas and a few other states have already scheduled executions. In Mississippi, the attorney general has peti-

tioned the state's high court to set a date for one inmate. And governors in states such as Florida have said the execution process should now resume.

Ohio has not set any execution dates yet, and top officials have made no public requests for quick action.

The speed at which Ohio's death-penalty cases move forward depends on how quickly and forcefully Ohio officials respond, said Doug Berman, a law professor at Ohio State University.

Strickland's lawyers are still reviewing the federal court decision. And unlike some governors, Strickland has not made a definitive public statement about what he believes the case means. Ohio's lethal injection procedure still is being challenged in a lawsuit.

After the Supreme Court decision came out, this is what Strickland said about applying it to Ohio: "You would just think that because the methodology is quite similar that the legal outcome would be similar as well."

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Hundreds flee wildfire burning in foothills near Los Angeles

By John Antczak
The Associated Press

SIERRA MADRE, Calif. — Firefighters gained ground Sunday against an early season wildfire that slowly chewed its way through dense brush near Los Angeles, forcing more than 1,000 people from homes in the foothills.

About 500 firefighters attacked the 400-acre fire, aided by two helicopters and water-dropping air tankers, said Elisa Weaver, spokeswoman for the city of Sierra Madre. Residents evacuated at least 550 homes Saturday night and Sunday, but none had burned.

"This is pretty serious," Weaver said. "Some of these areas have not burned in over 40 years."

Crews had the fire 30 percent

contained by Sunday evening, Sierra Madre spokesman James Carlson said. Light winds and rising humidity were aiding firefighters, who hoped to have the blaze fully contained within 4-7 days, Carlson said.

The evacuations would be in place until at least 6 a.m. yesterday, Carlson said.

Helicopters dropped water on a steep ridge above Sierra Madre near Bailey Canyon Wilderness Park, about 15 miles northeast of Los Angeles and just east of Pasadena. A fixed-wing water tanker also dropped flame retardant.

Aircraft were also helping fire officials assess the movement of the blaze, which was being pushed northwest into Angeles National Forest, said Battalion Chief Tim

Davis of the Forest Service.

"It's very steep, inaccessible terrain, and it's very heavy brush," Davis said at a news conference. "Very difficult and arduous labor for these crews. You can't get bulldozers into the majority of where these fingers of fire run."

Two firefighters had minor injuries — one was treated for heat exhaustion, another for a strained knee, authorities said.

The blaze also stranded 50 guests from a wedding party at the Chantry Flats ranger's station on Saturday until they were airlifted out Sunday afternoon, Weaver said. It took five helicopter trips from the ranger's station to the parking area where the wedding party's cars were. The party then was escorted out by road.



BURNING WILD: Mike Whitaker, with Riverside CAL Fire, uses a hose to control a fire Monday in Sierra Madre, Calif.

RIC FRANCIS | AP PHOTO



TONY GUTIERREZ | AP PHOTO

FUNDAMENTALISTS: Adults and children, members of the Fundamental Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, gather beneath a covered porch at one of the structures at their temporary housing

Supreme Court upholds photo ID law to deter voter fraud at the polls

By Mark Sherman
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court ruled yesterday that states can require voters to produce photo identification without violating their constitutional rights, validating Republican-inspired voter ID laws.

In a splintered 6-3 ruling, the court upheld Indiana's strict photo ID requirement, which Democrats and civil rights groups said would deter poor, older and minority voters from casting ballots. Its backers said it was needed to deter fraud.

It was the most important voting rights case since the Bush v. Gore dispute that sealed the 2000 election for George W. Bush.

"[The law] is amply justified by the valid interest in protecting ... the electoral process."

John Paul Stevens | Chief Justice

The law "is amply justified by the valid interest in protecting 'the integrity and reliability of the electoral process,'" Justice John Paul Stevens said in an opinion that was joined by Chief Justice John Roberts and Anthony Kennedy.

Justices Samuel Alito, Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas also agreed with the outcome, but wrote separately. Justices Stephen Breyer, Ruth

Bader Ginsburg and David Souter dissented.

More than 20 states require some form of identification at the polls. Courts have upheld voter ID laws in Arizona, Georgia and Michigan, but struck down Missouri's. Yesterday's decision comes a week before Indiana's presidential primary.

The case concerned a state law, passed in 2005, that was backed by Republicans as a way to deter voter fraud. Democrats and civil rights groups opposed the law as unconstitutional and called it a thinly veiled effort to discourage elderly, poor and minority voters — those most likely to lack proper ID and who tend to vote for Democrats.

Over half of Zion Ranch teens pregnant

By Michelle Roberts
The Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — More than half the teen girls taken from a polygamist compound in west Texas have children or are pregnant, state officials said yesterday.

A total of 53 girls between the ages of 14 and 17 are in state custody after a raid 3 weeks ago at the Yearning For Zion Ranch in Eldorado. Of those girls, 31 either have children or are pregnant, said Child Protective Services spokesman Darrell Azar. Two of those are pregnant now, he said; it was unclear whether either of those two already have children.

"It shows you a pretty distinct pattern, that it was pretty pervasive," he said.

sive," he said.

State officials took custody of all 463 children at the ranch controlled by the Fundamental Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, saying a pattern of teen girls forced into underage "spiritual" marriages and sex with much older men created an unsafe environment for the sect's children.

Under Texas law, children under the age of 17 generally cannot consent to sex with an adult. A girl can get married with parental permission at 16, but none of these girls is believed to have a legal marriage under state law.

A call seeking comment from FLDS spokesman Rod Parker was not immediately returned. Church officials have

denied that any children were abused at the ranch and say the state's actions are a form of religious persecution.

Civil-liberties groups and lawyers for the children have criticized the state for sweeping all the children, from nursing infants to teen boys, into foster care when only teen girls are alleged to have been sexually abused.

No one has been charged since the raid, which was prompted by a series of calls to a domestic abuse hotline, purportedly from a 16-year-old forced into a marriage recognized only by the sect with a man three times her age. That girl has not been found and authorities are investigating whether the call was a hoax.

Debt collectors see boom in recent years

By Pamela Yip
MCT

DALLAS — Many industries are hurting these days, but not the debt collections business.

A look at the numbers tells why:

Consumer bankruptcies soared 38 percent last year, compared with 2006, according to the American Bankruptcy Institute and the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts.

Consumer credit delinquencies in the fourth quarter of 2007 reached their highest levels since 1992, according to the American Bankers Association.

Many of those late on their bills have gotten calls from debt collectors and have had less-than-pleasant experiences.

Consumer complaints to the Federal Trade Commission

"As long as the collector is not being abusive, it's a good idea to communicate ..."

Thomas E. Kane | FTC attorney

about debt collectors have consistently ranked No. 1 among all industries for several years in a row.

The FTC enforces the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, which prohibits deceptive, unfair and abusive practices by third-party collectors.

The law "permits reasonable collection efforts that promote repayment of legitimate debts."

The act doesn't apply to a company's in-house debt collectors, but the FTC can go

after in-house collectors by wielding a provision of the Federal Trade Commission Act that prohibits "unfair and deceptive acts in commerce."

"It's a great catchall," said Thomas E. Kane, senior attorney in the FTC's Division of Financial Practices.

No one likes to be dogged by a bill collector, and there are steps you should take to ensure that you resolve your situation quickly and aren't bullied by unscrupulous collecting firms.

Don't ignore calls or written communications from collectors.

"As long as the collector is not being abusive, it's a good idea to communicate with the collector because if you don't owe the money, you'll be able to convince the collector to go away," Kane said.

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Worst trainwreck in a decade kills 70 and injures 400 in China

By Anita Chang
The Associated Press

ZIBO, China—Some passengers were sleeping, but others were standing in the aisle waiting to get off when their high-speed train derailed, toppling into a ditch "like a roller coaster" and slamming into another train. At least 70 people died and more than 400 were injured.

China reacted swiftly to its worst train accident in a decade, sending top officials and soldiers to Zibo, the site of yesterday's pre-dawn crash in eastern China's Shandong province, and sacking two railway officials.

Authorities were quoted as saying that human error was to blame. The official Xinhua News Agency also said one of the trains was traveling too fast.

The crash occurred when a train headed from Beijing to the coastal city of Qingdao — site of the sailing competition during the Olympics in August

"I suddenly felt the train, like a roller coaster, topple ... to one side and all the way to the other side. When it finally went off the tracks, many people fell on me."

Zhang | Passenger

— derailed and hit a second passenger train just before dawn. Nine of the first train's carriages were knocked into a dirt ditch, Railway Ministry spokesman Wang Yongping said in a statement.

News photos showed rescuers pulling passengers from a rail car sitting on its side. Survivors bundled in white bed sheets from the sleeper cars stood or sat near the wreckage. The death toll could rise, with 70 people hospitalized in critical condition, according to Xinhua.

Security was tight on the outskirts of Zibo with roads to the crash site sealed by police

and other nearby roads lined with paramilitary and police vehicles.

A total of 420 people were hurt, Xinhua said. No foreigners were among the dead. Injured survivors included four French nationals, a coach from China's national sailing team and a 3-year-old boy.

Some 1,000 soldiers and armed police were sent to the crash site to seal it off and help with the rescue work, Xinhua said. Heavy cranes were used to move the wrecked rail cars, and workers aimed to reopen the line. Officials seemed to be in a rush to get the line functioning again

ahead of the May Day holiday weekend, when Chinese flock to resort cities like Qingdao.

Trains are the most popular way to travel in China, and the country's overloaded rail network carried 1.36 billion passengers last year. While accidents are rare, the government is trying to extend and upgrade the state-run rail network and introduce more high speed trains.

The second train, which had been headed from Yantai in Shandong to Xuzhou in eastern Jiangsu province, was knocked off its tracks but stayed upright.

"Most passengers were still asleep, but some were standing in the aisle waiting to get off at the Zibo railway station," one passenger surnamed Zhang told Xinhua.

"I suddenly felt the train, like a roller coaster, topple ... to one side and all the way to the other side. When it finally went off the tracks, many people fell on me," Zhang said.



AP PHOTO

RAILWAY RESCUE: Rescuers remove a victim from a carriage after two passenger trains collided in Zibo. A high-speed passenger train jumped the tracks and slammed into another train early Monday, killing at least 66 people and injuring 247.

38 militants killed in fierce fighting in Baghdad

By Selcan Hacaoglu
The Associated Press

"Otherwise, we've had pretty good success in decreasing the attacks ..."

Col. John Hort | U.S. Army commander

BAGHDAD — Shiite extremists lobbed more rockets or mortar shells at the U.S. protected Green Zone yesterday as American and Iraqi troops engaged militants in the most violent clashes in weeks in Baghdad.

Abrams tanks were used to repel attacks on two army checkpoints, killing 22 militants in one clash late Sunday, the U.S. military said yesterday. Sixteen other militants were killed Sunday in separate firefights.

The militants apparently were taking advantage of a sandstorm that blanketed the capital on Sunday, which enabled them to shell the Green Zone that houses the U.S. Embassy and much of the Iraqi government on the west side of the Tigris River.

Alarms could be heard again on Monday as loudspeakers warned residents to take cover and stay away from windows.

The U.S. Embassy confirmed yesterday the area was hit by indirect fire, the military's term for rocket or mortar attacks, and said there were "no reports of serious injury or deaths at this time."

While the sandstorm eased, the militants continued to benefit from low visibility that gave cover from attack by U.S. aircraft, which were grounded until Monday morning.

Col. John Hort — who commands a U.S. Army base on the southern edge of Sadr City, the main stronghold of anti-U.S. Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr's Mahdi Army militia — attributed Sunday's barrage to the thick dust kicked up by the storm.

This sharply degrades the performance of sensors and targeting lasers mounted on helicopters and unmanned drones.

He said 17 of the rounds that hit the Green Zone on Sunday were fired from Sadr City.

"Otherwise, we've had pretty good success in decreasing the attacks using Predator and Shadow (drones) and Apache helicopters over the past month," he said.

Hort said the militants used to be able to fire four to six rockets in a single salvo. But because of the quick reaction of the drones and choppers, they have less time for launching, which has restricted their fire to single-rocket launches, he said.

In Sadr City, four Iraqi policemen were wounded when Katyusha rockets slammed into a building housing Iraqi and U.S. forces, police said. A mortar attack targeting a U.S. military headquarters injured three civilians in the eastern Baladiyat area, police said.

Meanwhile, a suicide attacker on a motorcycle struck a checkpoint manned by U.S.-allied Sunni fighters in eastern Baghdad, killing at least one and wounding four other members of the awakening council, police added.

Also yesterday, gunmen killed a local commander of al-Sadr, Ali Ghalib in the southern city of Basra, police said.

The fighting has escalated as al-Sadr's movement rejected terms set by the Iraqi government for lifting a crackdown against his Mahdi Army militia.

He also has threatened to launch an "open war" against the U.S.-led foreign troops — a move that would lift a nearly eight-month-old cease-fire and jeopardize recent security gains.

In a step to avoid a full-blown confrontation with the government, al-Sadr on Friday called for an end to Iraqi bloodshed. But the attacks against Iraqi military checkpoints Sunday suggested that patience was running thin within the ranks of the Mahdi Army.

American commanders have blamed what they call Iranian-backed Shiite factions they say have broken with a cease-fire imposed by al-Sadr in late August.

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

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SIDELINES



TENNIS

Babina earns All-Tournament honors

BG tennis player Katia Babina was named to the All-MAC Tournament Team yesterday. Babina was instrumental in the Falcons' run to the tournament semifinals over the weekend.

SOFTBALL

Falcons eke out two tough wins at Toledo

BG was on the road this past weekend and was able to take two games from arch-rival Toledo. Both games were decided in the late innings. BG is now 12-3 in MAC play. **Page 10**

ONLINE

The BG News Sports Blog

Log on to The BG News Sports Blog for updates and info on your favorite BG teams.

<http://www.bgnwssports.blogspot.com>

OUR CALL

Today in Sports History

1986—Roger Clemens strikes out 20 batters in a game.

1984—Betsy King wins the LPGA Freedom/Orlando Golf Classic.

1961—ABC's "Wide World of Sports" debuts.

1892—Charlie Reilly becomes baseball's first pinch-hitter.

The List

There have already been some coach firings in the NBA, and today, we're listing five more who are on the hot seat.

1. Flip Saunders: If Philadelphia beats his Pistons in the playoffs, it could be adios for Flip.

2. Mike D'Antoni: His offense-first coaching scheme has yielded zero championships for the Suns.

3. Mike Woodson: The Hawks have been mostly mediocre to bad in his tenure.

4. Mike Dunleavy: Given that his team is the Clippers, anything could happen.

5. Avery Johnson: His Mavericks teams have flamed out in the playoffs for the last three years in a row.



WINNING TRADITION: The BG club rugby team has won 50 games in the last year. They were ranked No. 3 in the country just a few weeks ago.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY BGSSU RUGBY

Reporter joins the scrum

BG News sports writer plays during rugby's recent win over Notre Dame

By Jason Jones
Reporter



JIMI CASSIL | BGSSU RUGBY

ON THE SIDELINES: BG News reporter Jason Jones waits to get in Saturday's game.

I stepped onto the rugby field, and was immediately reminded the game speed is much more intense than practice speed.

The action came my way late in the game when a Notre Dame player who resembled a young Adolf Hitler got the ball and headed around the end in my direction. I squared up and close in readying myself for the collision. Just prior to impact, he pitched the ball to his left, switching my focus to the riot forming to my right. Bodies flew through the air, the ball crashed on to the ground after the player whom the pass was intended for was destroyed upon the ball's arrival, and several players in a cyclone of orange, brown, blue and gold collided into one another.

Soon the whistle blew, and the hysteria ended, but even now as I look back on that moment 24

"I look back on that moment 24 hours later and I can still see everything developing around me in slow motion, as if I were in the eye of a havoc-wreaking storm. It did, in fact, give me the perfect look at how chaotic of a sport rugby really is."

Jason Jones | Reporter

hours later, I can still see everything developing around me in slow motion, as if I were in the eye of a havoc-wreaking storm. It did, in fact, give me the perfect look at how chaotic of sport rugby really is.

Over the past week I've witnessed a within-the-scenes view of the men's rugby team, becoming a Bowling Green Falcon for the duration of the week. I became a part of their practices, their life-

style and their season-ending victory over the Notre Dame Fighting Irish. I also learned the valuable lesson that the rugby team is one big fraternity, the field their massive fraternity house.

Coming into the week, my rugby experience consisted of a game I had watched on television when I was 12, and BG's win over Michigan that I'd covered two weeks before. So upon taking this into account, it's clear that I had no

idea what I could expect.

I was nervous going in, worried about the intensity of a division one program's practices and games, wondering if I would even be safe throwing myself into the middle of that world. Soon I learned that while practices were a workout and winning was expected, fun was the prevalent virtue of this team.

I heard players echoing the same type of slogan all week, that while some teams preach winning as all that matters, a club sport isn't worth playing if it isn't fun. That, I found out, is exactly true, because unlike the varsity sports offered here at the University, the rugby team receives no scholarships, no financial aid and very little funding. This last point became evident when BG players were disappointed with their school after seeing Notre Dame come to town on a

See **RUGBY** | Page 11



ENOCH WU | THE BG NEWS

IN THE BATTER'S BOX: BG second baseman Logan Meisler gets ready to put the bat on the ball during a recent game.

Falcons drop two of three to RedHawks

By Nate Parsons
Reporter

Derek Spencer's RBI sacrifice fly in the top of the ninth on Saturday snapped the Falcons' nine-game losing streak against Miami.

With game two of a three-game stint at MU's McKie Field tied at five all and the bases loaded with one out, Spencer stepped to the plate and hit a deep fly ball to left center, scoring the game-

winning run.

Spencer, who had two hits in the game and seven in the series, knew what he had to do when he stepped into the batter's box.

"My approach was to just get something up in the zone that I could get up in the air and into the outfield somewhere," Spencer said.

However, MU made it interesting in the bottom half of the ninth. With two outs and a man on

second, first baseman Brian Hangbers snagged a line drive to end the game, preserving the 6-5 victory.

Brett Browning (1-1) picked up his first win of the season, giving up just one hit after coming in for relief in the bottom of the eighth with the bases loaded and one out.

See **BASEBALL** | Page 11

Tennis comes up just short at MAC Tournament

By Nate Parsons
Reporter

For the second straight year, the BG tennis team couldn't quite get over the hump in the Mid-American Conference Championships.

The fifth-seeded Falcons lost to No. 1 seed Western Michigan in the semifinal round for the second straight year, coming up just short of a championship game berth.

BG lost to nationally-ranked (60) WMU, 4-0, on Friday. The Broncos, however, would go on to lose to Buffalo — a team BG beat during the regular season — in the championship game.

Despite the loss, coach Penny Dean still thought the team had a good tournament.

"We played pretty well," she said, "but WMU came out very fired up and a little more ready to play the MAC tournament than we were."

The Falcons didn't get off to a good start as they lost the doubles point for only the third time this season.

The duo of Christine Chiricosta/Kelsey Jakupcin lost at the top flight, while Katia Babina/Stefanie



Kelsey Jakupcin

Selected as an All-MAC First Team player



Christine Chiricosta

Selected as an All-MAC Second Team player

Menoff lost at the third flight after WMU's Yumi Matsuto/Emily Dudzik came from behind to win, 8-6. Jenna Nussbaum and Andrea Volle's second-flight match was halted with the Broncos holding a 6-2 lead.

It was more of the same for BG in singles play. Babina lost to Noriko Saruta — the winningest player in WMU history — 6-2, 6-3, at the third flight, while Nussbaum and Volle lost at the fifth and sixth flights, respectively, giving the Broncos three more points and clinching

See **TENNIS** | Page 11

Falcons win two tight road games in weekend series with arch-rival Toledo



TREVOR LEE | THE BG NEWS

By Jordan Cravens
Reporter

The hits were clutch and the pitching on-point as the BG softball team picked up two victories against arch-rival Toledo over the weekend.

With the victories, the Falcons moved to 12-3 in Mid-American conference play, in addition to winning the last 11 of 12 games, placing them in second place in the MAC East division behind Kent State.

"This weekend we played pretty well — I don't think we were at the top of our game, but I think we played well in all three aspects," BG Coach Shannon Salsburg said.

In Saturday's action BG was led at the plate by Dawnjene DeLong who went a perfect two-for-two, and Katelynn Boso who hit her second homer of the season, going two for three with a 1.667 slugging percentage and batting in two of the four total runs in the game.

Toledo was held scoreless in the game going into the final out of the bottom of the seventh, when they pieced together a three-run rally on five straight singles before pitcher Hayley Wiemer got her eighth strikeout of the game to hold off the offensive onslaught

"This weekend we played pretty well — I don't think we were at the top of our game, but I think we played well in all three aspects."

Shannon Salsburg | BG softball coach

and to claim a 4-3 victory.

Sunday's game also came down the final inning as both teams were held scoreless by solid pitching performances from both pitching squads.

Toledo's starting pitcher Hannah Rockhold kept BG hitters off balance, scattering a few hits throughout the game before giving up a string of hits in the seventh.

"Throughout the day their pitcher did a nice job — she threw a dirty change up — then all of a sudden in the seventh inning we were hitting her and the game was over," said Salsburg.

Susan Sontag was the hero in this victory, hitting the game-winning double to score DeLong in the seventh putting BG up 1-0 heading into the final at bat for Toledo.

But it was a three up three down inning as DeLong threw out all

three base runners at first base to secure the victory.

"DJ [DeLong] has been a rock for us at shortstop," Salsburg said.

In addition to DeLong, things seem to be clicking defensively for the team.

"Everybody has been pulling their weight and sometimes making outrageous plays in the field," Salsburg added.

Earning the shutout on the day was the Wiemer and Emily Gouge pitching duo, with Gouge giving up one hit and fanning one batter in the first four innings, before Wiemer came on in relief, striking out four and giving up one hit.

In relief, Wiemer picked up her 12th victory on the season and maintaining an unblemished MAC pitching record at 10-0.

"They did a great job, they complement each other very well ... they really kept them off balance with Gouge throwing side to side



TREVOR LEE | THE BG NEWS

TURNAROUND: The Falcons have won 11 of their last 12 games after a dismal start to the season.

movement and Wiemer up and down movement," said Salsburg of the two-hitter effort.

The team has two double-headers left against Ohio and Akron before entering MAC tournament play May 7-10.

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LYNNE SLADKY | AP PHOTO

REGIME CHANGE: Pat Riley (left) stepped down as head coach of the Heat yesterday. Erik Spoelstra will take over the job next season.

Riley officially steps down as Heat coach

By Tim Reynolds
The Associated Press

MIAMI — Pat Riley's worst season as coach of the Miami Heat will be his last.

The Hall of Famer resigned as coach yesterday but remains team president. Erik Spoelstra, a 37-year-old assistant, will succeed Riley and become the NBA's youngest current coach. Spoelstra has never been a head coach at any level outside the NBA's summer league.

Miami finished the season with the NBA's poorest record (15-67) and, by far, the worst of Riley's 25-year career.

"I look forward to the challenge," said Spoelstra, who received word of the decision over the weekend.

As president, Riley will continue

overseeing the plan to rebuild a franchise that's just two years removed from a championship, after deciding that he'd best benefit the franchise by working exclusively from the front office.

The on-court duties now belong to Spoelstra, who started in the Heat video room in 1995.

"While we are always looking for NBA talent to perform on the court, the most important talent that you may find has to perform on the bench, in the locker room, late at night, watching film, motivating and executing all the responsibilities of a head coach," Riley said. "I believe Erik Spoelstra is one of the most talented young coaches to come around in a long time."

Riley's future was among many major issues awaiting Miami this

offseason. The Heat could have the No. 1 pick in the draft, are assured a top-four pick and are certain to make moves in an effort to revamp a roster plagued by injuries.

"Pat Riley has instilled in me values that enabled me to win a championship in just three seasons," Heat guard Dwyane Wade said yesterday. "I've seen him do the necessary things to make us winners and I believe that with his focus on being president and his commitment to the team, we will once again become a contender."

Wade has worked extensively with Spoelstra in practices and 1-on-1 sessions.

"I believe in Coach Spo and have complete confidence that our team will succeed with him at the helm," Wade said.

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July 4, 2008

CLOSED

July 5-July 16, 2008

8am-5pm

Pharmacy 10am-4pm

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Verbal spat continues between playoff rivals Cleveland and Washington

By Tom Withers
The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Overrated hasn't worked. Now one of the Washington Wizards is calling LeBron James another name: Crybaby.

Following Cleveland's 100-97 win in Game 4 on Sunday, James, who has absorbed two flagrant fouls in this rough-and-tumble playoff series and has been banged around by the Wizards, was asked about Washington's tough-guy tactics.

"I guess that's what they want to do," he said. "hurt LeBron James in this series. It's not working."

Yesterday, Wizards center Brendan Haywood, countered.

"Awww," Haywood said, in a whiny, high-pitched voice to mock James. "They are trying to hurt me."

Haywood, called for a flagrant-two foul and ejected from Game 2 after shoving James, believes it's time for Cleveland's superstar to stop complaining.

"I mean come on man, this is the playoffs," Haywood said following yesterday's practice. "He wears 23, he wants to be Michael Jordan, I can respect that, he's a great player. You saw what Mike went through. Mike got fouled way worse than this. No one is trying to hurt him, everybody is trying to play basketball, trying to play tough. Play basketball and leave it alone."

If it were only that easy.

With at least one game to go, Washington vs. Cleveland Part III has featured weeks of back-and-forth trash talk, intense games loaded with hard fouls, even dueling rap stars. Haywood's remarks — and a postgame comment from James — will provide the backdrop as the teams prepare for Game 5 tomorrow night at Quicken Loans Arena.

With a win, the Cavaliers, will close out the Wizards for the third straight year in the post-season, something Washington's players insisted wasn't possible before the series began. To finally eliminate Cleveland,



TONY DEJAK | AP PHOTO
SHOWN THE DOOR: A referee ejects Wizards center Brendan Haywood in Game 2.



MARK DUNCAN | AP PHOTO
MOVING: Cavs forward LeBron James drives past Washington's DeShawn Stevenson.

they had to stop — or at least slow down — James, but other than knocking him to the floor a few times and winning Game 3 in a stunning blowout, that has hardly happened.

On Sunday, James turned his anger from a flagrant foul committed against him by DeShawn Stevenson on the Wizards with his best all-around game of the series. In 44 minutes, he scored 34 points with 12 rebounds and seven assists, the final one to Delonte West, whose 3-pointer from the left corner with 5.4 seconds left gave the Cavs their two-

game cushion.

Washington's plan from the outset was to be rough with King James, who has been knocked on his royal rear-end several times. But James has always gotten up, and through four games, he's averaging 29.5 points, 8.5 rebounds and 6.5 assists.

Following Game 4, James was asked if the Wizards can come back. He considered the question, repeated it and then answered it with all the subtlety of one of his ferocious slam dunks.

"Do I think they can do it?" James said. "No."

TENNIS

From Page 9

the match.

The three remaining matches were all stopped.

Chiricosta was close to defeating Priyanka Parekh at the second flight for the second time in two weeks, while Jakupcin was in the midst of tying her match with MAC Player of the Year Kerstin Pahl at the top flight at a set apiece. Menoff's fourth-flight match was deadlocked at a set apiece.

On Friday, the Falcons avenged an early-season loss by beating Eastern Michigan, 4-2, tying the school record for most wins in a season with 16 and giving coach Dean her 200th victory.

The Falcons hadn't beaten the Eagles since the 1999-00 season, a

span of nine matches.

The Falcons got off to a strong start by winning the doubles point.

Babina/Menoff won at the third flight, 8-4, while Nussbaum/Volle lost at the second flight, 8-3. Needing a win to take the doubles point, BG looked to Jakupcin/Chiricosta at the top flight. The duo narrowly won, 8-6, to give BG the early lead.

BG and EMU split the first four matches to finish in singles play.

Chiricosta defeated Aditi Krishnan at the second flight by identical 6-0 scores, while Volle lost a total of only three games in her sixth-flight win.

The Falcons needed one win in the final two matches and Babina gave them just that.

After losing the first set, 6-2, to Tina Besthorn at the third flight,

Babina battled back to take a second-set tiebreaker, 7-6 (6). She would then go on to win the third set, 6-4, clinching the victory for the Falcons.

Because of Babina's stellar play over the weekend, she earned a spot on the MAC All-Tournament team.

Looking back on the season, which saw the Falcons go 16-5, including a spot in the national rankings, Dean said this is just one of those seasons that will always be remembered.

"We had a great season," she said. "There are really a lot of accomplishments, so this will be a year that sticks out."

The tournament also marks the last for senior co-captains Nussbaum and Volle, who became the winningest class in BG tennis history.

BASEBALL

From Page 9

The RedHawks (15-27, 6-12) jumped out to an early 3-0 lead in the first, as they forced starter Kevin Light to throw 29 pitches. Light would settle down, though, throwing just 47 pitches in the next six innings combined and giving up only one run.

Game two would be the only bright spot for the Falcons.

In game one on Friday BG walked in the game-winning run in the bottom of the 11th after blowing a 6-0 lead.

With the game tied at eight all, reliever Brennan Smith (2-2) walked in the game-winning run after his 3-1 pitch was high and outside.

"You can't defend the walk, and it came back to haunt us," said BG coach Danny Schmitz.

"We walked way too many guys in the series (30 in all)."

Overall, Schmitz was disappointed in the pitching staff and how they performed.

"They have to raise their quality of play," he said. "They need to give us an opportunity to win ball games. They're very capable of doing that, but we're just not doing that on a consistent basis."

BG only got one quality start and that was from Light, who gave up just four runs (three earned) on five hits in seven innings.



ENOCH WU | THE BG NEWS
MOUND TROUBLE: BG pitchers were roughed up in the team's two weekend losses.

"They have to raise their quality of play. They need to give us an opportunity to win ball games."

Danny Schmitz | BG baseball coach

Neither of the other two starters lasted more than 4.2 innings.

In game one Frank Berry pitched 4.2 innings, giving up five runs (four earned) on seven hits, while Kevin Leady (2-4) took the loss on Sunday, giving up seven runs on five hits in 4.1 innings in a game that saw MU score nine runs in the fifth and sixth innings for a 13-4 win.

The Falcons have now lost six

of their last seven after starting Mid-American Conference play 6-2.

Spencer said the problem is that the team has settled.

"When we were winning games, we were playing with conviction, like we needed to go out and prove some people wrong," he said. "Once we started winning some games, we put some things in neutral. We started coasting."

RUGBY

From Page 9

luxury tour bus, just one week after they car pooled to New Mexico.

I learned a bit about rugby over the course of the week too. My first two days of practice taught me the basics of rugby; passing, playing defense, learning my position and running plays. I played winger, the only position that could really be taught in three days.

On the third day, I dove into the more technical parts of rugby. For instance, I learned the art of the scrum, the element of a rugby game that sees several players from each team interlocked to form to opposing herds with the objective of driving the other one back. The teams line up across one another, the ball is thrown between them, and one team pushes the other backward until the last man in the pack can get his hands on the ball. The scrum, I realized, is an intense and awkward display of strength, brute force and male bonding.

At the conclusion of the third day, the team sat down on the bleachers, where the seniors gave their speeches. Six graduating seniors delivered emotional speeches that thanked their teammates for the friendships they forged, and for the success they've shared. I was once again exposed to the one thing I really took out of the week, which is that these men were

"With the game in hand in the second half, I warmed up on the sideline. The action came to a rare stop. Mazzarella turned and said 'Jason, you're in.'"

Jason Jones | Reporter

far more concerned with enjoying their time spent on the rugby field than they were with winning. Winning as it turns out, was just an added bonus that came around 50 times over the past year.

Saturday came and we drove to the field, four of us rode in the back of a pickup truck. After relaxing in the locker/storage room, we hit the field to warm up. The team was loose, laughing and sure of themselves.

Moments later, the Fighting Irish, already in full uniform, pulled up on their tour bus, soon after sprinting out onto the field and immediately running through precise, robotic drills at the commands of one player. BG, at the other end of the field, continued warming up, still dressed in long john shirts, hooded sweatshirts, while still laughing and having a good time. Anyone foreign to how things work here in BG would have, upon witnessing warm up, expected Notre Dame to destroy the Falcons.

At the beginning of the game,

Notre Dame looked as if they felt the same way, intercepting an early pass and taking it in for the score that would put them up 7-0. The reaction on the BG side wasn't one of nervousness or panic, but simply of minor disappointment, as one player shouted "there goes the shutout." Despite the early deficit, these men were still positive they would win this game easily.

As the first half progressed, they proved to be dead on. BG converted on five straight scores, going up by 28 before Notre Dame was able to reach the end zone again.

The game, which ended in a 52-17 victory, and Mazzarella being carried off the field in celebration of the conclusion of his stellar career, proved that while BG shows up loose and laughs at everything, it is still the best in the region.

With the game in hand in the second half, I warmed up on the sideline. The action came to a rare stop. Mazzarella turned and said "Jason you're in."



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Wright says criticism is attack on black church

By Nedra Pickler
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a defiant appearance before the Washington media, the Rev. Jeremiah Wright said yesterday that criticism surrounding his fiery sermons is an attack on the black church and he rejected those who have labeled him unpatriotic.

"I served six years in the military," Barack Obama's longtime pastor said. "Does that make me patriotic? How many years did (Vice President Dick) Cheney serve?"

Wright spoke at the National Press Club before reporters and a supportive audience of black church leaders beginning a two-day symposium. He said the black church tradition is not bombastic or controversial, but different and misunderstood by the "dominant culture" in the United States.

He said his Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago has a long history of liberating the oppressed by feeding the hungry, supporting recovery for the addicted and helping senior citizens in need. He said congregants have fought in the military, including in Afghanistan and Iraq.

"My goddaughter's unit just arrived in Iraq this week while those who call me unpatriotic have used their positions of privilege to avoid military service while sending over 4,000 American boys and girls to die over a lie," he said.

Wright seemed to relish the chance to speak out after weeks of being derided in the press. He reveled in his retorts, high-fiving an audience member, pointing and winking at his supporters and mocking descriptions of him as Obama's spiritual mentor.

"I'm a pastor, he's a member. I'm not a spiritual mentor. Voodoo," he said, leaning into the microphone and wiggling his fingers in the air like he was conducting a service.

Wright has been Obama's pas-



J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE | THE AP
OBAMA PASTOR: Rev. Jeremiah A. Wright Jr., pastor of Chicago's Trinity United Church of Christ and the former pastor of Democratic presidential hopeful Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., prepares to address a breakfast gathering at the National Press Club in Washington.

tor for more than 20 years. Wright brought Obama to Christianity, inspired the title of his book "The Audacity of Hope," officiated at his wedding and baptized his daughters. Wright also told reporters yesterday that he prayed privately with the family right before Obama announced he was running for president, although he didn't appear with them publicly.

Obama has said he disagreed at times with Wright, but video clips of some of the preacher's most controversial remarks have widely been distributed on television and the Internet and been damaging to Obama's campaign.

In a sermon days after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, Wright said "America's chickens are coming home to roost" after the United States. Asked what he meant by that, Wright challenged the reporter questioning him.

"Have you heard the whole sermon?" he responded. "No. You haven't heard the whole sermon. That nullifies that question."

He said criticism comes from people who only have heard sound bites playing repeatedly on television and have never listened to his entire sermons.

Dean says either Clinton or Obama must drop out in June

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democratic Party Chairman Howard Dean said yesterday that either Hillary Rodham Clinton or Barack Obama must drop out of the Democratic presidential race after the June primaries in order to unify the party by the convention and win the election in November.

But Dean didn't say which candidate should drop out, only that it should happen after primary voters have been to the polls.

"We want the voters to have their say. That's over on June 3," Dean said in an interview on ABC's "Good Morning America."

Dean also said that while the party rules say Democratic superdelegates can wait until the party's August 25 convention to make up their minds, that would be too late to unify the party and defeat the presumptive Republican nominee, John McCain.

"We really can't have a divided convention. If we do it's going to be very hard to heal the party afterwards," Dean said. "So

we'll know who the nominee is and that'll give us an extra two months to get our party together, heal the wounds of having a very closely divided race and take on Senator McCain."

Dean said he won't have to tell either Clinton or Obama when it's time to leave the race.

"Either of these candidates, if it's time for them to go, they'll know it and they will go," Dean said. "They don't need any pushing from me. You know when to get in and you know when to get out. That's just part of the deal."

"This is not about Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama," Dean added. "This is about our country. It's about a better course for our country. ... We've got to move on and win the presidency."

Obama has more delegates and popular votes than Clinton, but she is also fresh off a big-state win in Pennsylvania.

Dean said that "none of the so-called party elders I talked to" think the contest should go until the convention. "I agree with that," Dean said.



BRENDAN SMIALOWSKI | THE AP
CAMPAIGN 2008: In this photograph provided by "Meet the Press," Howard Dean, Chairman of the Democratic National Committee appears during the taping of "Meet the Press" at the NBC studios in Washington.

McCain makes sacrifice a part of his platform for presidency

By Ted Anthony
The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — You look at the man today — immaculately tailored suit, ramrod-straight posture, confidently articulating complex beliefs in a swanky Midwestern hotel — and it's almost impossible to fathom who he was between 1967 and 1973.

But John McCain 2008, the Republican presidential nominee-in-waiting and scion of two generations of Naval admiralty, ended the 1960s and began the 1970s in prisoner's rags as an American POW in Vietnam — refusing a North Vietnamese offer to go home early because he was the son of someone important.

Today, it's abundantly clear when you talk to him: McCain doesn't want to be defined by his wartime experiences alone. But when the Arizona senator talks

the talk of service and sacrifice, it's never less than crystal clear that, for five torturous years, he walked the walk.

"I hope that my judgment and my views and my principles that are formed over a long period of time and not just defined by one event, although that one event or that one episode was very impactful," McCain says.

During a recent campaign stop in Cleveland, McCain agreed to sit down and talk with The Associated Press about service and sacrifice — his own and that of the American people, whom he believes have an instinct for sacrifice embedded in their DNA that emerges particularly starkly during troubled times.

"It's throughout our country's history. I think it's been greater at times than at other times, depending on what the external and internal challenges have been. ... But I think it's always

been a trait and a characteristic of the American citizen," he says.

Then he adds: "With all due respect to citizens of every other nation of the world ... I don't think, because of the very nature of our history, that they match up to our citizens' willingness to serve and sometimes to sacrifice."

It's odd, talking to McCain about this stuff. He understands sacrifice, is passionate about it, clearly wants it to be front and center. He believes a leader should inspire the people to service and sacrifice, yet beyond a promise to provide opportunities, he doesn't offer much of a blueprint as to how.

Schools in particular, McCain says, have been bullish about alerting students to service opportunities; that's where his own kids found out they could contribute their time to the house-building organization Habitat for Humanity.



MARY ALTAFFER | THE AP
MCCAIN 2008: Republican presidential candidate Sen. John McCain delivers a speech at the National World War I Museum in Kansas City, Mo.

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	CHEM 100	9 am-12 pm MTWRF		POLS 110	8-11 am TWR
	ECON 202	8:30-11:30 am MTWRF		POLS 417	1-4 pm TWR
	EDFI 408	1-4 pm MTWRF		PSYC 101	10 am-1 pm MTWR
	EDTL 204	8:30-11:30 am MTWRF		PSYC 310	5-8 pm TWR
	ENG 200	1-4 pm MTWRF		SOC 101	6-9 pm TWR
	ENG 342	9 am-12 pm MTWRF	6/2-6/19	CS 180	10 am-12 pm MWR
	MGMT 360	6-9 pm MTWRF	6/16-8/8	BIOL 205	1-4:30 pm MTWR
	PSYC 310	9:30 am-12:30 pm MTWRF		BIOL 332	8:30 am-12 pm TWR
	SOC 101	1-4 pm MTWRF		EDAS 409	9:30 am-12:30 pm TR
	WS 200	10 am-1 pm MTWRF		EDTL 303	10 am-12 pm TWR
5/6-6/5	EDHD 201	3-6 pm TR		ENG 111	Web-based Course
5/27-6/26	PHIL 101	6-10:30 pm TR		HIST 151	9:30 am-12:30 pm TR
	PHIL 219	6-10:30 pm MW	7/7-8/8	ACCT 222	6-9 pm MWR
6/2-7/3	ACCT 221	6-9 pm MWR		ACS 250	Web-based Course
	BIOL 101	8 am-12 pm MWF		ART 101	1-4 pm MTWR
	CHEM 100	6-9 pm TWR		EDIS 448	1-4 pm TWR
	ENG 111	7:45-10 am MTWR		ENG 112	7:45-10 am MTWR
	ENG 112	Web-based Course		ENG 201	7:45-10 am MTWR
	ENG 200	6-9 pm TWR		F&N 207	6-9 pm MTR
	ENVS 101	Web-based Course		HIST 206	Web-based Course
	F&N 207	6-9 pm MTR		IPC 102	6-9 pm MWR
	GEOL 100	10 am-1 pm MTW		LIB 221	Web-based Course
	HDFS 221	8:30-11:30 am MTR		MATH 095	1-4 pm TWR
	HDFS 303	12-3 pm MTR		MATH 095	6-9 pm TWR
	HIST 152	Web-based Course		MATH 115	6-9 pm MTR
	HIST 206	6-9 pm TWR		MATH 122	9 am-12 pm TWR
	IPC 102	8-10 am MTWR; 8 am F		MATH 126	5:30-9:15 pm MTWR
	LIB 221	Web-based Course		POLS 110	Web-based Course
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Diabetes before motherhood on the rise, Calif. study shows

By Alicia Chang
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The number of pregnant women with pre-existing diabetes has more than doubled in seven years, a California study found, a troubling trend that means health risks for both mothers and newborns.

And the number of diabetic teenagers giving birth grew fivefold during the same period, according to the study, the largest of its kind.

Expectant mothers who don't control their diabetes face an increased risk of miscarriage and stillbirth. Their babies have a higher chance of being born

with birth defects.

"These are high-risk pregnancies," said Dr. Florence Brown, an expert on pregnancy and diabetes. "All women with pre-existing diabetes need to plan their pregnancies."

Brown is co-director of the Joslin-Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center diabetes and pregnancy program in Boston. She had no role in the study, which was done by researchers at Kaiser Permanente, a California-based health care provider.

The researchers focused on health records from more than 175,000 ethnically diverse women who gave birth in a dozen Kaiser hospitals in

Southern California from 1999 to 2005. Experts believe the findings likely reflect the overall U.S. population.

The actual number of pregnant women with pre-existing diabetes was small. In 1999, there were 245 such women; by 2005, there were 537. That translates to a rate that rose from 8 per 1,000 pregnancies to 18 per 1,000.

The rate increased the greatest among 13- to 19-year-olds giving birth. It ballooned from about 1 per 1,000 pregnancies to 5.5 per 1,000 during the seven-year period.

Blacks, Asians and Hispanics were more likely to have diabetes before pregnancy than whites.



FRANK FRANKLIN II | AP PHOTO

DIABETES PREGNANCY: Michelle Cangemi, a Type 1 diabetic who is 7 months pregnant with her second child, poses for a portrait with her daughter Marissa, 3, Jan. 24, 2008, in Lynbrook, N.Y. The number of pregnant women with pre-existing diabetes has more than doubled in seven years, a California study found, a troubling trend that means health risks for both mothers and newborns.

Supporters of medical marijuana law take issue with federal case

By John Ellis
MCT

FRESNO, Calif. — Luke Scarmazzo is an aspiring hip-hop artist who is facing the possibility of a long stint in prison on federal drug charges.

In the federal government's view, the case against the Modesto, Calif., resident and co-defendant Ricardo Ruiz Montes is fairly simple: they broke the law by selling marijuana through their business, California Healthcare Collective.

That it allegedly was for medical purposes is irrelevant.

But the case — due to start this week in U.S. District Court in Fresno — promises to be anything but straightforward.

For one, there's the ongoing battle between California's Proposition 215, which legalized the medical use of marijuana, and federal law, which views the drug — even when used for medical purposes — as illegal.

The debate didn't end when the U.S. Supreme Court in 2005 ruled in favor of the federal gov-

"The government is just piling it on. They're very vindictive in this case."

Anthony Capozzi | Fresno attorney

ernment, but it will be on display on the trial's fringes, both with medical marijuana supporters expected in the courtroom and a planned noon rally today outside the federal courthouse.

As with Dustin Costa, the medical marijuana activist who was convicted in Fresno's federal courthouse on drug charges in 2006, attorneys won't be allowed to take the debate to the jury, because possession or use of the drug is illegal under federal law.

Scarmazzo, who has a prior conviction for assault, is not just a medical marijuana activist.

He starred in a hip-hop video that featured him raising two middle fingers to the camera and declaring "(expletive) the feds."

Prosecutors were incensed by

the video, which will be introduced as evidence in the trial.

That prompted Fresno attorney Anthony Capozzi, who is representing Scarmazzo, to say Friday in an interview: "They're going to play it to the jury, and the judge is going to allow it. I can't believe it."

Capozzi added: "The government is just piling it on. They're very vindictive in this case."

Brian Landsberg, a professor at the University of the Pacific's McGeorge School of Law in Sacramento, said the prosecution might look at the video as establishing or contributing to proof of misconduct.

But they also might want to return the gesture that Scarmazzo displayed in his video.

"If they have a strong case, a case they would have brought anyway, taking some satisfaction in going after this guy is just human," he said of the video.

"It shouldn't influence their decision-making, but that doesn't mean they can't take some pleasure in putting on this evidence."

Study foresees 'severe shortage' of general surgeons

By Robyn Shelton
MCT

ORLANDO, Fla. — A potentially "severe shortage" of general surgeons is looming in the United States — leaving fewer doctors to repair hernias, operate on accident victims and carry out other common procedures, a study released last week concluded.

Researchers charted a nearly 26 percent drop in the ratio of general surgeons to patients since 1981, decreasing from 7.68 per 100,000 Americans to 5.69 by 2005.

The timing is lousy. General surgeons are losing ranks while aging Baby Boomers are starting to need their skills from gallbladder removals to cancer operations.

"You have a decreasing number of general surgeons in the face of an increasing elderly population whose demand for surgical services is only going to increase," said Dr. Dana C. Lyng, a general surgeon and lead author of the study from the University of Washington in Seattle. "That's why everyone is concerned."

The trend is part of an overall shift in medicine from

"If you're a plastic surgeon, there aren't a lot of emergencies and you're paid up front. You're not likely to be up all night working. It's very different from a rural general surgeon ..."

Dr. Dana C. Lyng | General surgeon, lead author of study

general to narrow fields, with medical students' choices shaped by a variety of lifestyle and money issues.

Young doctors put a higher value on their personal lives, making fields that require frequent and unpredictable hospital duties less attractive, Lyng said. In addition, he said many students leave medical training with "mountain of debt" in school loans. By necessity, they are looking for careers that will help them get out of the hole. The combination of less-demanding fields and more lucrative payoffs are drawing students away from general surgery.

"If you're a plastic surgeon, there aren't a lot of emergencies and you're paid up front," Lyng said. "You're not likely to be up all night working. It's very different from a rural general surgeon who might be on call 24/7 or

every other night."

Published in the Archives of Surgery, the analysis counted a drop from 17,394 general surgeons in 1981 to 16,662 by 2005. During that same time period, the U.S. population grew by 66 million.

It also documented a rise in general surgeons who are older than 50, which means more current doctors will be reaching retirement age even as fewer young doctors enter the field. There's no way to predict how the crunch will play out.

"The unique role of the general surgeon has to be addressed if we're going to make any changes or even hold steady in the nation's shortage of health-care workers," said Dr. George F. Sheldon, a former president of the American College of Surgeons and professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

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It's that shirt you never wear anymore, the pants that don't fit, all those cans of soup and extra boxes of Mac 'n Cheese, or the fan you don't have room to store. Chances are, if you have extra stuff, you can donate it to Bowling Green area families and organizations in need!

What can be donated?

- Any and all clothing and shoes, in or out of fashion
- Non-perishable food (snacks, cereal, peanut butter, ramen noodles etc.)
- Clean bedding/towels/pillows/blankets
- Books-any and all
- Paper and school supplies of any kind.
- Personal items-used and open are O.K.!
- (ex: laundry detergent, soap, fans, games, sports equipment, dishes/glassware, toys, etc.)
- Furniture that is clean and in good shape
- Basically, just about anything you're willing to part with!

Now until the residence halls close!

Look for the donation boxes in your residence hall lobby, Greek Houses, Chily's and Temptations Convenience stores, and the Union

Contact reslife@bgnet with any questions

Airlines tout celebrity chefs to lure travelers back to flights

By Victoria Brett
The Associated Press

First-class airline passengers can say goodbye to mystery meat.

While complimentary meals have all but disappeared for most coach flights, there's a whole new culinary landscape for first class. In the latest effort to lure customers and create buzz, airlines are serving up gourmet menus cooked up by celebrity chefs.

Travelers flying to South America or Japan on United Airlines can feast on award-winning chef Charlie Trotter's appetizer of sauteed prawns and crispy short rib wontons with organic Thai barbecue sauce and chilled sweet-and-sour cucumber relish. Going to Europe on American Airlines? Try the rosemary-scented shrimp drizzled with garlic sauce and served with lemon rice and artichokes.



DAVID KOHL | AP PHOTO

AIRPLANE FOOD UPGRADE: Several prepared meals are displayed with wine inside the Delta Airlines Gate Gourmet facility at the Cincinnati Northern Kentucky International Airport. In the latest effort to lure customers and create buzz, airlines such as Delta, American, Continental and United are serving up gourmet menus dreamed up by a bevy of celebrity chefs.

"Everything has been upgraded," says Stephan Pyles, who is known for his creative Southwestern cuisine and has signed on as one of American's three culinary celebrities.

"Just as the customer in a restaurant has become more sophisticated, refined and demanding in terms of their food, that demand has filtered to the airlines."

Keep several back-up plans when traveling in and out of the country

By Vicki Lee Parker
MCT

Let me just put it out there: Air travel this summer is going to be downright miserable.

If you manage to get through a trip without a major delay, flight cancellation, lost bag or overnight stay in a strange city, consider yourself an exception.

Airlines are cutting flights, raising fees and in some cases, shutting down. Add the usual summer storms and heavy traffic to the mix, and it'll be messy.

Most travelers will benefit from packing a travel contingency plan.

Don't have one?

Here are some tips from those who travel best — frequent fliers.

Marco Fregenal, CEO of Raleigh, N.C., software firm Carpio, racks up more than 150,000 air miles a year traveling to offices in Panama, Mexico and Brazil.

Over the years, he has learned flight attendants' names and schedules, which flights from

"I'm immediately on the phone, getting a seat on the next flight out."

Marco Fregenal | CEO of Carpio

Newark, N.J., are usually delayed and which seats on American Airline's planes have the least amount of leg room.

He also has figured out some timesaving tricks. One helps him avoid standing in line for hours, waiting to clear Customs on international flights.

Fregenal finds out how many planes are scheduled to land in the country where he has to go through Customs. If there are two or more, he tries to get a seat on the first flight landing there in order to be the first in line.

If his flight is canceled, he doesn't bother to run to the counter to rebook. Fregenal keeps at least two airline numbers on his

cell phone's speed dial.

"I'm immediately on the phone, getting a seat on the next flight out," he said. "There is only one person at the counter, but there may be 100 people waiting to take your call."

Before trips, he often goes to the airline's Web site to research his flight. There, he can find out what percentage of the time the flight lands on schedule. If it's less than 80 percent, he might try to find another flight.

Bill Mann, a lawyer at Ragsdale Liggett in Raleigh, said he travels with only a carry-on bag. He estimates that when he was making about 60 flights a year, carrying his luggage on board saved him about 90 minutes per trip. It also saved him from worrying about lost luggage.

Mann said that he knows of frequent fliers who FedEx their bags to the hotel they are traveling to — a common tactic among corporate salespeople who transport stacks of sales brochures and packages.

On the Money: Foreign currency exchange

By Chuck Myers
MCT

How much are your dollars worth in another country? The World Wide Web can provide a very quick answer.

If you're interested in dabbling in the currency exchange markets or planning for a business or vacation trip, the following sites will give you the latest exchange rates for the U.S. dollar against the euro, peso, pound and a host of other national currencies.

— Bloomberg
www.bloomberg.com/invest/calculators/currency.html

Provides foreign exchange calculations for more than 200 currencies.

— CoinMill.com
[coinmill.com/exchange\(u](http://coinmill.com/exchange(u)

nderscore)rate(underscore)alc.html

Offers four methods of foreign currency conversions, including a multi-currency global conversion tool.

— Oanda.com
www.oanda.com/convert-er/classic

Contains both expansive and limited foreign exchange currency converters.

— XE.com
www.xe.com/ucc

Provides easy-to-use Universal Currency Converter with up-to-the-minute rates.

— International Currency Converter
www.iccf.com

Features a calculator for determining exchange rates for 270 countries and territories, and a snapshot of rates for selected currencies.

Coming to BGSU:

Microsoft.

> Exchange

What is Microsoft Exchange?

A server-based messaging system that provides access to electronic mail, shared calendaring and scheduling, and other collaborative services.

What is Outlook?

An email client for Microsoft Windows and Vista users to access the electronic mail and calendaring features provided by Microsoft Exchange servers.

What is Entourage?

An email client for Macintosh users that allows OS X users to access email and calendar features.

What is Outlook Web Access (OWA)?

A Microsoft Web-based email client that offers access to email and calendar features via a Web interface that closely matches the features and appearance of Outlook.

BGSU will transition from the current email system and Meeting Maker to Microsoft Exchange during the first half of 2008.

Users will then be able to access their email and calendar using Microsoft Outlook 2007 (for Windows users), Entourage 2008 (for Macintosh users) or the Outlook Web Access (OWA) interface for Web users.

Check the Microsoft Exchange project Web site www.bgsu.edu/exchange for details on the project including:

- > Migration Details
- > FAQ's
- > "Rumor Mill" link to submit questions regarding the project
- > Migration Guides
- > Links to Self-help pages and Quick Reference Guides

Continuing and Extended Education will be offering training sessions on Exchange. Registration information is available at <http://ctc.bgsu.edu/exchange>.

For faculty and staff the migration process will begin by the user receiving notification of their migration date in an email message sent to their BGNet email account a minimum of two weeks prior to their migration date.

Any student who is interested in volunteering to move to the new system may register for a date to migrate by selecting the "Exchange Volunteer Form" found under the Misc Services heading under MyServices in MyBGSU.

Columbus airport eyes new terminal amid industry uncertainty

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Recent decisions by three airlines to reduce flights through Port Columbus International Airport will lead to a drop in travelers this year and will push back the planned opening of a new terminal until at least 2018, an airport official said.

A record 7.7 million passengers passed through the airport in 2007.

But with the closure earlier this month of Columbus-based low-cost carrier Skybus Airlines, the decision by JetBlue Airways to pull out of the airport in January and Delta Air Lines' announcement in March of additional deep cuts in its schedule, airport officials expect the number of passengers to drop to about 7.2 million this year.

The drop will cause plans for the opening of a new terminal, which would replace the 1950s-era building, to be pushed back from 2015 to at least 2018, Elaine Roberts, chief executive of the Columbus Regional Airport Authority, told board members recently.

Port Columbus' five-year lease agreement with its remaining airlines expires at the end of 2009. Airport officials will then have to make a case for fee increases that would help pay for the new terminal and other projects.

But industry experts don't see an end to high fuel prices, and airlines are likely to resist any extra costs.

In Indianapolis, where Roberts was an airport board member before coming to Columbus, a new terminal is set to open in October after 30 years of planning.

"The airlines fought it tooth and nail. We finally had to just pull the trigger," said John Kish, executive director of the Indianapolis airport. "They seem to have come around."

Federal and state money, bonds and other financing tools would also help pay for planned expansion at Port Columbus.

Dirt is already being moved to redirect the main road into the airport and to create a new jet taxiway.

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Private eye pulls his punches in Hollywood wiretapping trial

By Greg Risling
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Anthony Pellicano handled some sticky situations during his days as a private investigator for some of the biggest names in Hollywood.

He helped Michael Jackson fend off child molestation allegations and found the remains of Elizabeth Taylor's third husband after they were stolen from a cemetery.

One of his toughest challenges, however, has been acting as his own lawyer in his federal wiretapping trial, which could go to the jury in the next few days.

Though he built his reputation as a tough-talking, bare-knuckled gumshoe, Pellicano mostly left his aggressive demeanor outside the courtroom and chose to preserve his loyalty to his famous clients rather than reveal their secrets as part of his defense.

He called only one witness during the two-month trial and rarely raised objections. He also decided against taking the witness stand to defend himself, even though prosecutors played a number of profanity-laced audio tapes in which he reassured clients that he would make their problems go away.



BILL ROBLES | THE AP

HOLLYWOOD WIRETAPS: In this courtroom sketch, Anthony Pellicano speaks in court during his wiretapping trial in Los Angeles. Pellicano handled some sticky situations during his days as a private investigator for some of the biggest names in Hollywood but recently his toughest challenges have been acting as his own lawyer in his federal wiretapping trial.

His "presumption was that those conversations would never be made available to anybody," Pellicano told jurors with little emotion during a 10-minute opening statement in which he failed to declare his innocence.

Pellicano, 64, is accused of running a criminal enterprise that wiretapped the phones of

stars such as Sylvester Stallone, and bribed police officers and telephone workers to run the names of celebrities such as Garry Shandling and Kevin Nealon through protected government databases.

He and four co-defendants have pleaded not guilty to a variety of charges.

The Daily Crossword Fix

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	1 Blue shade
14			15						16				2 Nastase of tennis
17			18						19				3 Child's toy weapon
20			21						22				4 W. Maugham
	23	24											5 Pencil's end
													6 Hair line
													7 "Diana" singer
													8 T-shirt size
													9 Do a judge's job
													10 Bucks and bulls
													11 Locality
													12 Broadcasts
													13 Actor Dillon
													19 The Kings middle name
													24 Robert and Alan
													25 "Coming to Take Me Away, Ha, Haaa!"
													26 Let loose
													27 "A Rage to Live" author
													28 Hidden
													29 Power option
													30 Reuben ingredient
													31 Lag behind
													32 Monica with a racket
													35 Mold and smut
													38 Seacows

ACROSS

- 1 Puppy's bite
- 4 Calyx parts
- 10 Lady's address
- 14 Inn order
- 15 Rainbow band
- 16 Opera song
- 17 By way of
- 18 Start of a broker's sign
- 20 Nodding response
- 21 Como Usted?
- 22 Confront boldly
- 23 Aesop's loser
- 25 New Mexico art colony
- 26 Part 2 of sign
- 30 Dol. divisions
- 33 Island leader?
- 34 Creative Coward
- 35 Fairway alert
- 36 Prey on the mind
- 37 Clever
- 38 Wall painting
- 39 "Tu" (1974 hit)

- 40 Burn a bit
- 41 "Hall"
- 42 Patriotic women's soc.
- 43 Part 3 of sign
- 45 Nuisance
- 46 Hotel employee
- 47 Acquire
- 50 Up to something
- 52 Cartoonist Keane
- 55 End of sign
- 57 Period
- 58 Taxi charge
- 59 Founder of Taoism
- 60 Cassowary cousin
- 61 Has dinner
- 62 Accounting activities
- 63 Current craze

ANSWERS



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Miley Cyrus not impressed with the Vanity Fair photo spread, said it was embarrassing

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Miley Cyrus is taking issue with a photo of herself that's going around, and it's not another amateur, truth-or-dare Internet snapshot — it's the handiwork of Annie Leibovitz.

"I took part in a photo shoot that was supposed to be 'artistic' and now, seeing the photographs and reading the story, I feel so embarrassed," Cyrus said Sunday in a statement through her publicist. "I never intended for any of this to happen and I apologize to my fans who I care so deeply about."

The photos, appearing in the upcoming issue of Vanity Fair, were taken by Leibovitz, a renowned celebrity photographer whose edgy, silver-toned portraits have included subjects such as Angelina Jolie, Scarlett Johansson and a naked, pregnant Demi Moore.

"I'm sorry that my portrait of Miley has been misinterpreted," Leibovitz said in a statement released by Vanity Fair. "Miley and I looked at fashion photographs together and we discussed the picture in that context before

"I never intended for any of this to happen and I apologize to my fans ..."

Miley Cyrus | Singer/Actress

we shot it. The photograph is a simple, classic portrait, shot with very little makeup, and I think it is very beautiful."

The Cyrus pictures accompany an interview with the 15-year-old pop star and her father, singer Billy Ray Cyrus. One photo in particular is causing the biggest stir: the teen idol is wrapped in what appears to be a satin bedsheet, looking over her shoulder with her back exposed.

The Disney Channel, which airs Cyrus' TV show "Hannah Montana," was also critical of Vanity Fair.

"Unfortunately, as the article suggests, a situation was created to deliberately manipulate a 15-year-old in order to sell magazines," a network statement said.

Vanity Fair defended the story and photo shoot in a statement of its own.

"Miley's parents and/or minders were on the set all day," the magazine said. "Since the photo was taken digitally, they saw it on the shoot and everyone thought it was a beautiful and natural portrait of Miley."

In a caption released by Vanity Fair with the photo, Cyrus expressed her comfort with how the apparently topleless picture turned out.

"I think it's really artsy," she told the magazine at the time. "It wasn't in a skanky way. Annie took, like, a beautiful shot, and I thought that was really cool. That's what she wanted me to do, and you can't say no to Annie."

A handful of borderline racy snapshots of a girl who appeared to be Cyrus have appeared on the Internet in recent months, including images of a girl posing in her underwear and bikini last week.

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